THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

Organization · Education · Co-operation

Winnipeg, Man. **Circulation over 75,000** *May 27, 1925*

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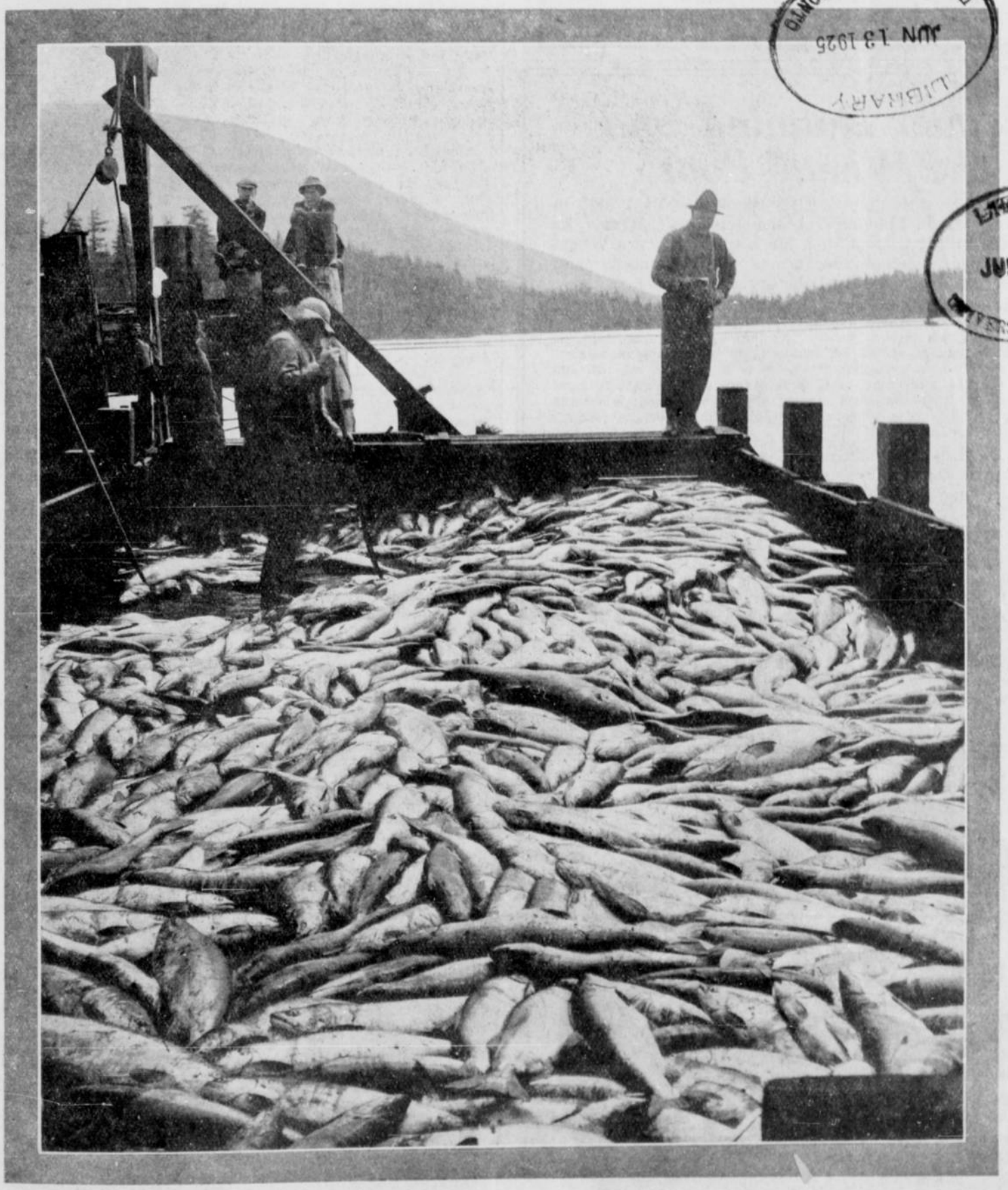

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Premier Dunning and the Wheat Pool

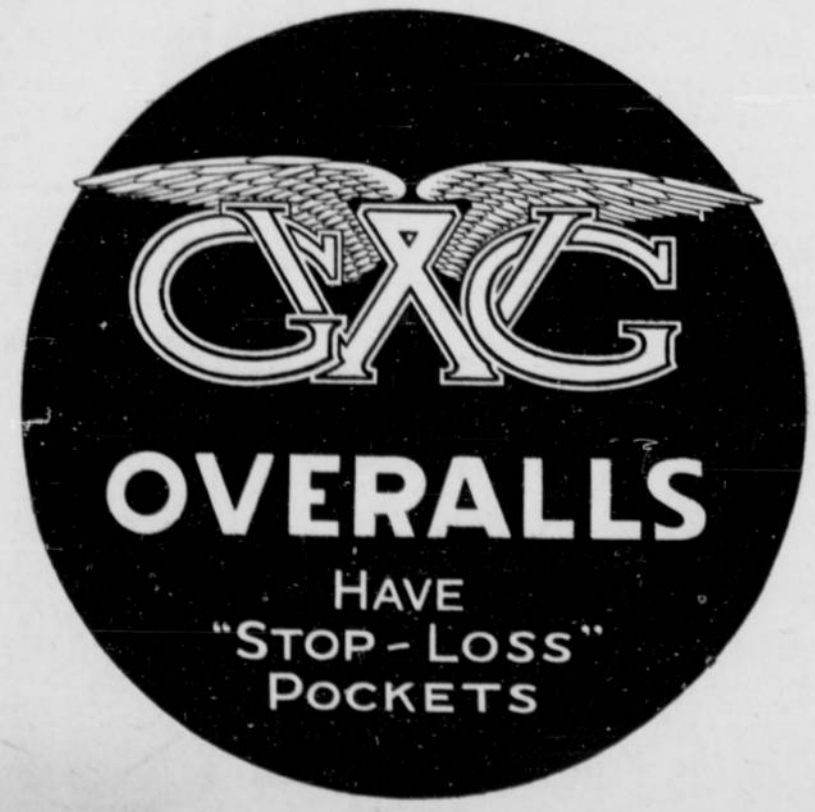
At the great organization meeting for the Wheat Pool, held in Saskatchewan, where Premier Dunning acted as chairman, he announced his full agreement with Mr. Sapiro, that if a Wheat Pool was formed, it should be formed by the farmers, and politicians should be kept out of the organization.

> **"You cannot mix marketing with politics," Premier Dunning stated. "If you evolve anything it should be evolved by the farmers and not imposed on the farmers by the government, so that the statement cannot be made or the insinuation made anywhere that it is a government scheme or a political scheme, and I give the assurance here—as I have given it to Mr. Sapiro more than a month ago—the moral support of the government is assured for any sound pooling scheme having the support of the farmers of Saskatchewan."**

Hon. C. M. Hamilton, minister of agriculture, represented the government on the Provincial Executive of the Wheat Pool, and four members of the government, Hon. C. M. Hamilton, Hon. S. J. Latta, Hon. J. G. Gardiner and Hon. J. M. Uhrich, addressed public meetings in the interests of the Pool.

When the Wheat Pool executive applied to the government for assistance to put across the Victory Drive, the Dunning government loaned $45,000 to the Pool. Every member of the government who has wheat to sign up has it signed in the Wheat Pool.

The Dunning government has kept its pledge to the farmers of the province. The attempt made to drag the Wheat Pool into politics is not in the interests of the Wheat Pool or the farmers.



News from the Organizations

Matter for this page should be sent to the Secretary, United Farmers of Alberta, Calgary; Secretary, Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, Regina; Secretary, United Farmers of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

Alberta

Use of Wide-Tired Wagons

Clemens local recently passed the following resolution:

"Whereas, the making and upkeep of roads is one of the heaviest bills of expense in municipal and provincial governments alike, and,

"Whereas, in the upkeep of roads the strongest factor known is the use of wide-rimmed wheels, which prevents the digging of deep uneven ruts that result from heavy loads, even macadamized roads will not for any length of time stand up under heavy traffic with narrow wheels, and,

"Whereas, better roads to a large extent contribute toward making community life more agreeable and attractive, and since this problem is mostly economic, we, the Clemens local No. 433, go on record as being in favor of the U.F.A. taking this matter up with the provincial government and wagon manufacturers, with the idea of increasing the width of wheels on all heavy vehicles until a standard of six inches is attained."

During a discussion on programs for meetings by Gwynne local, recently, the suggestion was made that Central office should announce subjects for discussion by locals in all parts of the province at the same time, so that it would be possible to ascertain the viewpoint of locals in regard to various important matters, from time to time. At this meeting it was decided to make a contribution to the Junior Conference Fund, although it would not be possible for the local to send a delegate.

Dalemead U.F.W.A. local have prepared and printed a program for their meetings during the year. Each meeting includes musical selections, community singing, and papers, addresses and roll calls on various topics. Some of the subjects to be discussed are: The Poultry Pool, Care of Teeth, Immigration, Dressmaking Demonstration, Why I Married My Husband, Dalton School Plan, Municipal Schools, Laundry Hints, Worry, Books for Children. Mrs. L. C. Hiatt and Mrs. J. S. Holmes are president and secretary of the local, and Mrs. M. Phillips is convener of the social committee.

Magic junior local, which was organized by the school-teacher of the district, Miss Marie Fleming, has 20 members, none over 16 years of age. Gladys Morris and Marion Hughes are president and secretary of this local, which is sending a delegate to the Junior Conferenee in Edmonton.

New Serapta local, organized recently in the Wetaskiwin constituency, elected as officers N. C. Seeley, S. Guyott and J. F. Gibson.

Saskatchewan

The Fixed Star

Should farmers drop out of the association in bad years? Members of one of our locals think so. But suppose farmers generally held that view. The S.G.G.A. would be liable to drop out of existence whenever a crop failure took place. Would this be to the benefit of the farming community? Not likely. On the contrary it would place the association in an exceedingly weak position. Governments, railway companies, financial and other organizations would feel they need not pay any attention to any requests made to them, because the association might at any time collapse. It would be exceedingly weak-kneed, and a weak-kneed organization would be as contemptible and as helpless as a weak-kneed individual. No one would pay any attention to it, and the result would be that all requests on behalf of the farmers would be ignored and treated with the utmost contempt.

That is not the way in which the S.G.G.A. has earned its prestige and influence. These can only be acquired by stability, and stability is only possible through the support of the farmers of the province in season and out of season. It is when conditions are bad that the S.G.G.A. is needed most, and it is when a farmer has least money that he should make a sacrifice to keep the association functioning. It is only the organization for which we make a sacrifice that is valued; and it is only the organization that is strong and virile through good years and bad that can have any real influence with governments and other institutions. If the S.G.G.A. is to help the farmers it must be kept on a strong and permanent footing. It must be a fixed star, and not a comet which appears and disappears at long intervals. The comet may raise the curiosity of the people, but it is the fixed star that constantly sheds its light and influence, and which we come to look upon as a friend. The S.G.G.A. is the fixed star, and will shine the brighter and help the more, the more constantly and the more largely it is supported.

Invermay G.G.A., which has recently been reorganized, is taking considerable interest in the egg and poultry and cattle pools, and is proposing to hold a meeting to discuss the former pool as early as can conveniently be arranged.

The Buffalo Horn G.G.A. has forwarded to the Central office a contribution of $70, to be applied to the fund for the relief of farmers in the dried-out areas of the province. The amount was made up of $48 raised by a box social, $20 from local funds, and a donation of $2.00.

Manitoba

Nine U.F.M. locals surrounding Carman are planning for a big farmers' picnic on June 12. The Agricultural Society is lending its support, sports are being arranged, and outside speakers are being secured.

The dates for two women's conferences have already been set. Portage U.F.M. district is to hold its conference on June 3, while Neepawa district is meeting on June 17. The Oakville U.F.W.M. local, which is in the Portage district, will hold a discussion on The Drug Habit, lead by Mrs. A. Tooth, of Eli, in July. In August they will hold an exhibition of flowers, vegetables and fruit, while in September, Mrs. Geo. Blight will give a talk on Preparing The Year's Meat Supply. October has an interesting meeting in store for this local, as the subject led by Mrs. D. Johnston, is Training The Next Generation. It is discussed under the following heads: pre-school age, school age, 'teen age, and parents. Making Christmas Toys, by Mrs. A. Alford, is the final subject of discussion in this local for the year.

The U.F.W.M. conference at Grosse Isle has been set for June 12. The United Farm Women from Woodlands, Grosse Isle, Argyle, Tecumseh, and other neighboring locals, as well as the Women's Institute from Rosser and Warren, will meet together for a discussion of problems that affect rural women, and for inspirational addresses. Mrs. E. J. Blow, the U.F.W.M. district director of the Selkirk constituency, is the moving spirit in the organization of these women's conferences.

Pebble Beach U.F.M. local has set June 26 as the date of their annual picnic. The ladies in the local are making things for a bazaar, according to Mrs. Geo. P. Seymour, a member of the local. The proceeds will be used for financing the local and in preparation for next winter. An interesting feature of the picnic will be a bran bag for the children.

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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

A Weekly Journal for Progressive Farmers

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PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

Tour of Livestock Pool Committee

The joint committee of the S.G.G.A., the Farmers' Union and the Saskatchewan government, which is investigating the question of the advisability of forming a provincial livestock pool, will conclude its itinerary as follows:

Rosetown, May 28; Lloydminster, May 30; Edmonton, June 1; Lacombe, June 2; Calgary, June 3; Maple Creek, June 5; Moose Jaw, June 6; Aneroid, June 11; Weyburn, June 13; Yorkton, June 22; Winnipeg, June 23; South St. Paul, June 26.

The Scope of the Enquiry

As an indication of the lines upon which the investigation is being conducted, the following questions have been sent to all points interested: What are your present methods of marketing? What is the general condition of livestock shipping in your district? Do you ship co-operatively, and if so would you be in favor of a five-year contract? Do you sell your livestock to a drover? What are your principal difficulties in connection with shipping? When do your heaviest shipments take place? Do you do any winter feeding, and if so are you satisfied therewith? Do you ship to the U.G.G. cattle pool? Have you given any consideration to the question of a cattle pool, and if so would you favor separate pools for cattle and hogs? Are you satisfied with the present grading of hogs? When selling to a drover do you receive any adjustment as a result of the grading or do you sell outright? Is the grading of hogs found to be an advantage when co-operative shipments are made? Have you given any consideration to the cost of marketing? Do you consider your district suitable for stock raising? What method do you suggest of spreading livestock shipping over a twelvemonth? Would you be in favor of a co-operative feed lot for finishing off beef?

Our Ottawa Letter

Solicitor-general E. J. McMurray resigns from cabinet—Progressive members form committees for special examination of proposed new grain act

By H. E. M. Chisholm

OTTAWA, May 23.—The most interesting, if not the most important feature of the week in parliament, has been the resignation from the position of solicitor-general, of Hon. E. J. McMurray, M.P. for North Winnipeg. Mr. McMurray's resignation from the cabinet has been rumored for some time. It would appear that the firm of which the late solicitor-general is a member, secured from the defunct Home Bank, loans approximating $60,000, and that in security for these loans real estate holdings, regarded at that time as adequate, were hypothecated. When the war broke out, real estate in Winnipeg and the vicinity depreciated in value, and the bank's security dropped proportionally in the estimation of the liquidator of the now defunct institution. Apparently Mr. McMurray is unable, either personally or through governmental assistance, to meet the obligation outstanding, and by reason of the fact that the ministry has under consideration a measure for the recompense of the Home Bank depositors, the member for North Winnipeg decided to free his colleagues from embarrassment and to resign his position in the cabinet.

The announcement of Mr. McMurray's resignation was made in the House on Friday, by Premier King, who read the correspondence which had passed between himself and his former minister.

"Matters of a professional and private nature," said Mr. McMurray in his letter to the premier, "induce me, after careful consideration, to tender you my resignation from your government."

Will Retain Seat

In reply Premier King wrote as follows: "It is with sincere regret that I have received your letter stating that, owing to matters of a professional and private nature, you wish to be relieved from your duties as a member of the government and as solicitor-general, at as early a date as possible. Your letter confirms the representations you have already made to me in conversation. Were it not that the reasons which impel you to desire to be relieved of your present public responsibilities are of a character to which you refer, I should be most unwilling to have you sever your connections with the government. I realize, however, from what you have said to me, how considerable in many ways are the sacrifices, both professional and personal, you have made in placing your time and abilities so exclusively at the service of the public. In the circumstances, I have no alternative but to meet your wishes and have accordingly tendered your resignation to his excellency."

The position of solicitor-general is more or less ornamental in character, and the vacancy which has occurred will not seriously affect governmental efficiency. Mr. McMurray will retain his seat as member for North Winnipeg, and the worst that can be said of the situation is that Premier King, who has always been desirous of having a cabinet representative of as many of the provinces of Confederation as possible, has lost his only Manitoba colleague. There are rumors that Hon. A. B. Hudson, of South Winnipeg, may succeed Mr. McMurray in the position. As a matter of fact, there is very little reason why the position should not be abolished altogether.

Ocean Rates Investigation

The Ocean Rates Committee during the week has sat almost continuously. While there is a doubt as to the proper method by which the control of ocean rates should be brought about, there is little doubt, as a result of the investigation so far, that a combine exists in the North Atlantic, the main purpose of which is to maintain rates at the high level. Representatives of the steamship companies have contended that they are making no money. The committee has made strenuous endeavors to discover the real facts from the voyage accounts of the various companies, but the auditor appointed to look into these has discovered a somewhat amazing discrepancy in the various methods of accounting, and has so far been unable to bring down a comprehensive report. In the meantime several witnesses have declared that rates on the North Atlantic on various Canadian commodities have increased since prewar days anywhere from 45 to 500 per cent. It has been stated that the

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Another Bank Merger

Hon. J. A Robb, acting minister of finance, announced last Friday night that he had consented to the purchase of the Union Bank of Canada by the Royal Bank. This merger, if approved by the shareholders of both banks, before whom it has yet to be placed, will reduce the number of chartered banks to 11, and eliminate the only substantial bank with headquarters in Western Canada. Shareholders of the Union Bank are to receive one share of the Royal Bank for two shares of the Union Bank. Royal Bank shares are quoted around 235 and Union Bank shares around 108, so that the merger represents a lifting of the value of Union Bank shares.

Sir Herbert Holt announces that several new western directors will be elected to the board of the Royal Bank, the executive staff in the West will be increased, and an assistant general manager will be stationed in Winnipeg.

Coarse Grain Pool Assured

A coarse grain pool for the marketing of barley, oats, flax and rye, will be in operation in Manitoba at least this fall. The campaign in Manitoba for signatures to the coarse grain pool contract reached its objective early last week, with 5,000 signed contracts. At the end of the week the total exceeded 5,100, and the contracts are still coming in. The reaching of this objective at a time when seeding occupied the main place in the activities of the farmers, is a source of great satisfaction to the pool officials. Recently only three canvassers have been working for the pool, but with the completion of seeding the number is being increased. There are at present 10, and the number will shortly be raised to 15, and with this force every township in the province will be carefully and systematically canvassed. The two pools have now a membership of over 12,000, of which only about 800 are not in the Wheat Pool. The campaign for membership will continue right up to threshing.

In preparation for the additional work the Manitoba pool offices in Winnipeg are being transferred from the tenth floor of the Electric Railway Chambers to the ninth floor. The Manitoba pool has only part of the tenth floor at present, the Central Selling Agency of the pool occupying the other part. When the Manitoba pool moves the Central Selling Agency will take over the whole of the tenth floor, and the Manitoba pool will occupy the whole of the ninth floor.

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Fruit Growers Brighten Up

Co-operative brings about distinct improvement among B. C. fruit growers

By S. W. Dafoe

AFTER three of the worst seasons experienced since fruit growing in British Columbia was established as a commercial possibility, the corners of the clouds that have persistently overshadowed the producers have commenced to lift, and the promise now is that the sunlight of prosperity may soon break through. All along the line the outlook of the orchardists of the interior districts of the coast province is undoubtedly brightening, despite the temporary set-backs they have received from the standpoint of production, by frosts, which seriously reduced the crop of 1924, and all but wiped out the prospects of the peach and apricot growers this year.

For these set-backs there have been compensating advantages. Reduced production in 1924 helped the marketing situation in a season when the purchasing power of prairie customers was at a very low ebb. This season the compensation for the practical destruction of the peach and apricot crops lies in the prospect of large cherry and apple crops. This remark applies more particularly, perhaps, to the southern part of the Okanagan Valley, for the December temperatures which took such a heavy toll of stone fruit buds in the south, left the apple buds of the winter varieties of apples in the north, lifeless, and in many instances did serious damage to the trees. A fortunate aspect of the situation, however, is that the major crop in the northern districts consist of the earlier varieties, all of which promise at least a fair crop.

At the worst, loss caused by natural causes is of a more or less temporary nature, and the chief sufferers have to exercise patience and look to the future with hope and confidence, and this is something they may do with more reason than for several years past, because of the steady and sure, if somewhat slow, improvements that are being brought about in connection with the selling end of the fruit business.

Have Co-operative to Thank

For this steady improvement all the credit must be given to the Associated Growers Ltd., the big tree fruit co-operative, whose beneficent administration of the affairs of the producers promises to stabilize their business to such an extent that, although there may be lean and fat periods as there were in the days of Joseph, conditions should not again become so bad as in recent years.

It is not my intention within the scope of this article, which is intended to reflect only in a very general way the improved outlook of the fruit growers of British Columbia, to go into particulars of the good that has been wrought by the growers' organization since it was somewhat hurriedly launched upon its career in the spring of 1923, following the disastrous selling season of 1922-23, when disorderly selling plunged the growers into such disaster that some quit in sheer disgust, while others were forced to the wall by the stress of circumstances.

Hurriedly organized, the new concern during 1923 struggled hard to establish its trading connections and to induce sluggish markets to absorb a pretty big crop. That it was at least partially successful was indicated at the end of the season when final returns showed that the average price received for apples was a few cents on the wrong side of half-a-dollar per box. That wasn't much more than a promise of better things in the future, but it was a whole lot better than the actual loss sustained by hundreds of growers in the previous season on every box of apples sold.

Another Producers' Risk

Then came the comparatively short crop of 1924. With the experience gathered in the previous selling season and the development of the co-operative, the selling end of the organization tackled its job with a considerable degree of confidence.

Undoubtedly it would have achieved a marked success but for one unfortunate and quite uncontrollable factor in the situation. The summer of 1924 was the warmest and driest on record in the apple-growing districts of the interior. Fruit grown under such conditions usually develops a tendency to deteriorate several weeks earlier than it should. The apples of 1924 were no exception to this rule, with the result that the necessity of forcing the fruit on the market before it became unsaleable robbed the producers of the advantages usually associated with a short crop. Apart from that, claims for damages commenced to pour in as soon as the fruit was sold, and the adjustments made necessary by deterioration robbed the growers of many thousands of dollars they would otherwise have received. Despite deterioration, however, the showing marked a distinct improvement over that of the previous season. Average returns on all varieties over the whole apple-growing area are not yet available, but for the Pentieton local, through which the writer ships the products of his orchard, there will be about 83 cents per box, or nearly double what there was for the 1923 crop.

Average returns throughout appleland will be considerably below this figure for the reason that the Pentieton district produces more of the late winter varieties, such as Delicious, Winesaps and Yellow Newtowns, which brought returns well over the dollar mark.

Will Prices Be Maintained?

Quite naturally the fear is present in the minds of many growers that if the promise of at least normal apple production is realized this year the level of prices reached during the past season, instead of being maintained or improved, may once more slip downward. The leaders of the co-operative movement, and the men directly in charge of the operations of the central selling agency, lean to the view, however, that with the prospect of steadily improved control, the better purchasing power of the consumers, the nation-wide campaign to induce Canadians to "eat more fruit" about to be started, and upon which $50,000 will be spent, it will be possible this year to maintain price levels that will ensure decent returns for growers.

More than that, they believe that the decision of the Associated Growers Ltd. to establish its own brokerage houses, to sell not only tree fruits, but the production of the berry growers of the coast districts as well, is going to wipe out many conditions in the trade that have operated to the disadvantage of the producers on one hand and the consumers on the other. These conditions have been emphasized in the voluminous report issued as the result of the enquiry instituted by the Dominion Department of Labor. In that volume, Commissioner Duncan has laid bare most of the reasons for the wide spread in past years between the pittance received by grower for the product of his hard labors, and the high prices paid by consumers. The co-operative organization believes that through the wider distribution of the products of B.C. orchards that will result from maintaining its own selling staff on the prairies the economies that will be effected by having a selling staff that will be interested in giving growers and consumers a fair deal, and not in building up big profits for the jobbing end of the business, and in the many economies that can be effected it will be possible to secure fair returns for producers while actually reducing the cost of apples to the consumers.

Already the Canadian Fruit Distributors Ltd., the new national fruit and produce pool movement, has shown its mettle in the handling of the rhubarb crop. This organization has already sold three times as much rhubarb as was sold last season at the

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The Grain Growers' Guide

Winnipeg, Wednesday, May 27, 1925

The Income Tax Lien

In 1923 an amendment to the Dominion Income Tax Act was passed, providing that "all taxes, interest and penalties payable under this act shall constitute a lien upon the assets of the taxpayer, both real and personal." This amendment was not to come into force until the 1924 income tax period.

Last year, following representations made to the government, the amendment was redrafted and made more clear, and it now reads as follows:

> Any assessed tax, interest or penalty remaining unpaid after the date of the mailing of the notice of assessment shall constitute a lien upon the assets of the taxpayer, notwithstanding lack of notice, registration or publication.

The lien becomes effective at midnight of the day on which the notice of assessment is mailed, and

> shall rank for every purpose after any transfer or security validly executed on or prior to the day of the mailing of the notice of assessment, and before any transfer or security validly executed after the day of the mailing of the notice of assessment.

Some of the difficulties created by this act were pointed out during the debate on the bill, but Hon. J. A. Robb, acting minister of finance, stated that the bill had been submitted to and approved by the following institutions: The Bond Dealers' Association of Canada, Canadian Bankers' Association, Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association, Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Dominion Mortgage and Investment Association, Ontario Association of Boards of Trade, Associated Chambers of Commerce, and other institutions.

This formidable list of expert bodies smoothed the way for passage of the bill, but with the coming into force of the act on May 1, objections are being once more raised to the legislation, not only with regard to its effect but with regard to its constitutionality. Doubt is being cast on the validity of a federal law establishing a lien on property, because property rights come within the jurisdiction of the provinces.

What the law means is that every purchaser of real estate must assure himself that the vendor of the property has paid his assessed income tax, because if the tax has not been paid the purchaser of the property becomes liable for the tax. The difficulty of ascertaining if the tax is paid is greater in the case of agreements of sale than in transfers, because there may be several interests between the holder of the title and the last purchaser under an agreement of sale. The lien established under the act is exempt from registration, and, consequently, the only way of finding out whether or not the tax is paid is by enquiry at the income tax office, and it is necessary to remember that the income tax is confidential, and assessment for taxes may be long after the taxpayer has made his return.

The law as it stands is decidedly inconvenient, and makes it difficult to ascertain when a title is clear and when it is not, and such difficulties add to the cost of executing mortgages, transfers and agreements of sale.

The government is entitled to some sympathy in its efforts to ensure that those liable for income tax shall not dodge the tax, but the method taken does not seem to be the best possible, and it is liable as time goes on to become a serious hindrance in real estate transactions, to say nothing of the troubles that might arise in connection with personal property.

Keeping Nothing Back

What is described as "a frank, disinterested and judicial discussion of the transportation issue," has been written and circulated by J. L. Payne, who states that he was private secretary to the late Hon. A. G. Blair, who was minister of railways when the Crow's Nest Pass agreement was concluded, and the Board of Railway Commissioners established. Mr. Payne says that he "had a humble part in the preparation of the Crow's Nest Pass agreement and also the Railway Act," and because of that and his close connection with Mr. Blair, "a sense of patriotic duty impels" him to offer a judgment on the present railway situation.

Mr. Payne's judgment is that the Crow's Nest Pass agreement should be repealed, and the adjustment of freight rates should be left entirely in the hands of the Railway Commission. He adduces arguments with which the country is now tolerably familiar, in favor of this course, and he adds one which is worth quoting in detail. He says:

> It happens that the Crow's Nest Pass agreement of 1897 took shape under my eyes. I remember very clearly both its purpose and its conditions. Its essential features were dictated to me by the late Hon. A. G. Blair, and he frankly and freely told me what was in his mind. The Canadian Pacific had asked for help from the government in financing the construction of the proposed Crow's Nest Pass Railway. Mr. Blair saw in this appeal an opportunity to serve the people of the West, and—let us keep nothing back—score a political point in favor of his party. In return for a subsidy, which did not exceed $3,500,000, the Canadian Pacific agreed to make reductions in its tariff of rates on certain commodities, and to cede to the government so many acres of the coal lands it had acquired from the government of British Columbia.
>
> The thing that remains vividly in my mind is Mr. Blair's attitude toward this whole matter. He really did not attach much importance to it, apart from its political value. He had at that time fully resolved to set up a railway commission, and if I remember correctly, had given notice to that effect to parliament.
>
> Beyond doubt Mr. Blair regarded the Crow's Nest Pass agreement as a temporary measure, to disappear when a competent regulating tribunal had been created by the new Railway Act, he then had in course of preparation. Any other view of what was in his mind would be illogical and utterly at variance with the fundamental principles of the Railway Act as introduced by him, and adopted by parliament in 1903.

The plain import of all this is that Hon. A. G. Blair drafted the Crow's Nest Pass agreement with his tongue in his cheek; that in order to "score a political point in favor of his party" he concluded with the Canadian Pacific an agreement, which, according to the Supreme Court of Canada, contained "an absolute and final fixing of certain maximum rates," and which promised that "no higher rates shall be hereafter charged," while all the time intending that the agreement should be merely temporary, and that the railway should get the subsidy out of the public treasury and be subsequently relieved of the obligations it assumed in order to get it. In other words Mr. Blair intended to deceive the people of Canada, and only by accident did his intentions go astray. And Mr. Payne advances this as a serious argument for the repeal of the Crow's Nest Pass agreement.

Far be it from us to challenge Mr. Payne's superior knowledge of the inner working of Mr. Blair's mind, but we do affirm that there isn't a particle of evidence outside of Mr. Payne's inferences that Mr. Blair had the intention imputed to him by Mr. Payne. Moreover, if he really was playing a political game it is exceedingly gratifying to know that for once the people won.

Booster Crop Reports

The farmer everywhere, so far as his vocation is concerned, lives in a glass house into which thousands of curious and deeply interested eyes are peering daily. Every day in the year bulletins are issued on the state of his affairs, and how he is being affected by drought or damp, storms or frost, rust or insect pests. A large number of people want to know how many acres he has under wheat, or cotton, or fruit, and how much he expects to harvest. Innumerable private institutions make it their business to report on the condition of his business, and his particular government assists in collecting and disseminating the information. He is the most carefully-watched producer in the whole wide world, and it is not in his exclusive interest that the watching is done. Not by a long way.

The farmer in these prairie provinces has no sooner got his seeder oiled and in working order than he becomes the centre of the country's economic interest. Everybody begins talking about crop prospects. Reports upon crop conditions collated with similar reports from other countries exert an influence upon the market, and are reflected in the tendency of prices. The game of the speculator lies in these price tendencies and in fluctuations. If there were no fluctuations the occupation of the speculator would be gone.

It is impossible in a product like wheat, grown and marketed all over the world, to prevent fluctuations in price, but economic justice does demand that the fluctuations approximate to the actual market conditions. The efforts that are all too frequently made to stimulate business by booster crop reports are good neither for general business nor the farmer, and in the main they represent either an extremely foolish optimism or a calculated effort to influence the market, and in either case they prevent the stability which conduces to the general economic good. The farmer is not well enough organized as yet to bring a stabilizing influence to bear on a market that is so delicately responsive to both the hopes and fears of genuine traders and the machinations of speculators, but something could be done toward stabilization by ensuring that crop reports are kept well within the limits of probability.

Fluctuations in Wheat

A few weeks ago the United States Department of Agriculture, empowered by the Grain Futures Act, instituted an investigation into the cause or causes of the violent fluctuations in the price of wheat between January 2, when May deliveries closed at $1.76¼ on the Chicago market, and May 3 when the closing price was $1.36½. In this trading period the high quotation of $2.05 was reached, and the daily fluctuations on several occasions showed 10 cents or more.

The investigation is in charge of Dr. J. W. T. Duvel, who is also in charge of the administration of the Grain Futures Act. This act prescribes that trading in futures may only be carried on in markets where the volume of trading in cash grain is sufficient to reflect accurately the value of the grain, and the officials of the trading organization must undertake to establish rules which are intended, among other

things, to prevent any manipulation of prices. The act further makes it unlawful for any person, not the owner or grower of grain, to deal in futures through agencies not under the control of the prescribed contract markets, and provides a penalty of $10,000 or imprisonment for one year, or both, for violation of the act. Regulations promulgated by the Department of Agriculture require the officials of the market to report immediately any attempt to manipulate prices.

The investigation commenced under this act is thus one of great consequence to both growers of and legitimate traders in grain, and in view of the course of prices in the period designated, it has an important bearing on the value of the act itself. It is therefore of some significance that the department announces that the investigation so far has revealed evidence "which would show an attempted or actual manipulation of the market," although "proof necessary for the conviction of those who might be charged with a violation of the act had not thus far been obtained." The announcement of the department continues:

> In any event, the results clearly show that the wide fluctuations were due primarily to the heavy trading of a limited number of professional speculators; likewise, that their operations were facilitated to a considerable degree by the large participation on the part of the public after material advance in prices had occurred the last half of January.

Thus far the investigation bears out the numerous complaints from European buyers, that there was something wrong with the markets on this continent. The violent fluctuations injured alike the actual sellers and buyers of wheat, and demoralized the markets to an unprecedented extent. How far, under competitive conditions, the legitimate trade can be protected against manipulations which produce such ruinous fluctuations is not an easy question to answer; it is the hope of the United States Department of Agriculture that the investigation may help to the discovery of a method of giving greater stability to wheat prices.

Bootlegging and Taxation

Cecil R. Smith is a bootlegger in Ontario, who is not ashamed of his vocation. When he was assessed for Dominion Income Tax he proudly informed the department that he was a bootlegger, and what was more, had no intention of paying income tax on the profits he made in bootlegging. His business, he said, was illegal, and if the government taxed his profits it would be recognizing that which was illegal. The case came before the Exchequer Court, which ruled that inasmuch as Mr. Smith had a taxable income he was liable to income tax, and it did not matter how he got his income. Mr. Smith took the case to the Supreme Court of Canada, and that court ruled that the income tax was in respect of incomes derived from businesses that were carried on legally, and that it was "difficult to conceive of the minister requiring criminals to furnish information as to the profits derived from the commission of crime, or demanding of them the keeping of books or records of their illicit and criminal operations." If the government had intended that profits from illegal and criminal operations were to be taxed the intention should have been unambiguously stated in the act. The profits from bootlegging could not, therefore, be taxed. Cecil R. Smith, accordingly keeps for himself the whole of the $92,020 which he made in 1920, also what he has made since.

In the House of Commons, on May 6, J. S. Woodsworth, M.P. for Centre Winnipeg, asked what action the government proposed to take to recover the gains from bootlegging, which the Supreme Court had declared to be a criminal offence. The minister of justice replied that he had not yet given the matter consideration.

Just what the government can do is not clear. Bootlegging has become a very common offence, but apparently Mr. Smith is the only one of the vocation who has the audacity to avow his business and defy the authorities. The rest either did not make enough out of the rotten business to be liable for income tax or they dodged it, or else they were glad enough to pay up and have nothing more said about it. According to the Toronto Globe, Mr. Smith is in jail; that is an institution with the inside of which all bootleggers should be made acquainted. While they are there, there will be no need to bother about their income tax. The decision of the Supreme Court does at least emphasize the necessity of properly enforcing the laws on the statute books, and it will prevent any connivance on the part of government departments at violation of the law.

More Senatorial Humor

They were debating amendments to the Bankruptcy Acts in the Red Chamber the other day. One clause related to farmers, and on this the following verbal exchanges were made:

> Hon. Sir James Lougheed: "I suppose the term 'farmer' will include the Progressive?"
>
> Hon. Mr. Belcourt: "It may be necessary to distinguish though."
>
> Hon. Mr. Bradbury: "They are miners, or grain buyers."
>
> Hon. Mr. Dandurand: "The Progressive should not be insolvent, because he would be alert and go forward."
>
> Hon. Sir James Lougheed: "He may be progressive in that direction."

This is, presumably, the "sober second thought in legislation."

"Buncoed"

The Manitoba Legislature

By J. G. Litterick

NO new taxation, an increase in one tax, reduction of taxation in two instances, easing of the financial burden of municipalities by distribution of more than half a million liquor commission profits on an equalized assessment basis, raising of the income tax exemption in respect of a child from $300 to $500, and increase in the allowance per child under the Workmen's Compensation Act, with some outstanding, constructive legislation aimed at helping the province along the road of prosperity—that, in brief is the record of the Manitoba government and the legislature at the session of the legislative assembly which opened January 15 and closed April 8.

The tax which was raised was that on gasoline, which was increased from one cent a gallon to three cents, with a rebate of two cents a gallon in respect of gasoline for agricultural machinery, equipment used in connection with fisheries, and for industrial purposes except for the operation of automobiles. The taxation reduced was that on auto licenses, on which a cut of $5.00 was made, and the supplementary revenue tax, which was lessened by about $50,000. The boost in the gasoline tax was to offset the loss involved by the reduction in the auto license fee, and the government's main object was to exact what it considered a fairer toll from the people who make most use of the roads and those who tour along them on pleasure bent, and who, being visitors, have not taken out provincial licenses.

The Manitoba Parliament Buildings

A Balanced Budget

The session was a notable one in many respects. For one thing, it marked the dawn of a new era in the way of the province living within its income. The government announced that it had managed to balance the budget. This is the first time this has been done for some years. The budget was not only balanced, but there was a balance on the right side of $133,395. Another significant announcement was that the credit of the province never stood higher in the financial markets of the world. Proof of this was supplied by the very favorable terms at which bond issues of the province were bought just before the house convened, and there was further evidence soon after prorogation, many of the most prominent financial firms in the Dominion and the United States being associated in close bidding for two issues, involving $5,500,000 to refund debentures maturing May 15. The prices offered on the latter occasion were such that the government was warmly congratulated. With the provincial ship "on an even keel," as Hon. F. M. Black, former provincial treasurer, put it, and with much that is auspicious in the general circumstances in which the province is placed, there seems to be every justification for the optimistic note struck by Premier John Bracken when he made the following statement in the House:

"It ill becomes the man of average vision to prophecy; but it does seem to me that if a sturdy and industrious people and just laws, great educational opportunities and wonderful natural advantages have any bearing upon the future of a state, Manitoba has no reason to fear the future, and she has every reason to look forward to it with confidence, pride and optimism."

The Grain Futures Act

The record of the government in balancing the budget is all the more satisfactory when it is considered that one of the sources of revenue from which about $130,000 was anticipated was closed. This was the Grain Futures Tax imposed at the 1924 session of the legislature. The legislation, which was challenged by the Saskatchewan government, was declared ultra vires of the province by both the Supreme Court of Canada and the Privy Council in London. Only some $20,590 had been collected by the government, which was thus $119,410 short on this account. It is perhaps just as well that only the comparatively small amount of $20,590 was collected. Not even governments like the experience of putting big sums of money in their pockets just to take them out again and pay back, and this is what the provincial government has to do with the $20,590. The government was signally successful in keeping departmental expenditure within the estimates, and to this fact was attributed the balanced budget and the surplus. A deficit for the new fiscal year of $144,508 has been estimated, but with the administration pledged to renewed efforts at administrative economy, and certain services, such as the provincial hydro, placed on a basis that will give them a better chance to pay their way, if not earn a profit, it is not improbable that there will be another and even more substantial surplus to report when the House next meets. The estimated expenditure is $10,608,412, and the estimated revenue $10,463,904.

No Early Election

When the House was in session there was some talk of dissolution and a general election in the summer, and some betting in hats was indulged in. The talk was chiefly on the part of Conservatives, and if reports be right, Major F. G. Taylor, K.C., their genial leader, owes George Little, government member for Beautiful Plains, and W. C. McKinnell, government member for Rockwood, who, by the way, was appointed deputy-speaker of the House, headgear of the most fashionable kind, for the government ship weathered every storm that raged in the legislative chamber. "We do not contemplate going to the country, and there is no need to put the people to the expense of an election—just yet," said Skipper Bracken, when J. T. Haig put the matter squarely before him.

Change in some of the cabinet positions was effected just before the House met. Hon. F. M. Black resigned as provincial treasurer in order to become financial vice-president of the Winnipeg Electric Company, and he occupied a back bench in the chamber as member for Rupert's Land. Premier Bracken took over the position of provincial treasurer, giving up the portfolio of agriculture and the position of minister of telephones. Hon. Albert Prefontaine, provincial secretary, assumed the additional office of minister of agriculture, while Hon. R. W. Craig, K.C., attorney-general, took over the duties of minister of telephones. Hon. Neil Cameron, former minister of agriculture, retained one of the front treasury benches as minister without portfolio.

A Centenarian Speaks

The session was marked by the unique circumstance of a centenarian addressing the House on one occasion. The veteran in question was F. W. Stevenson, of Hillside, political godfather of T. C. Norris, Liberal leader, being president of the Liberal association when Mr. Norris obtained his first nomination. All honor was extended to the white-haired veteran, who is 101 years of age, members unanimously agreeing to suspend the rules of the House to allow him to make a few remarks. It was the first time that a centenarian has spoken in any legislature in the Dominion, and the only other occasion recalled of any but the elect and the lieutenant-governor speaking on the floor of the House was during the Norris regime, when Governor Preus, of the state of Minnesota, gave a short address.

While the much discussed income tax was disappointing in the matter of returns, which totalled just $432,000 up to August 31, 1924, the profits of the Liquor Control Commission were a big factor in creating the favorable financial position of the government. They amounted to $1,186,089, after all expenses had been paid, including the cost of the referendum on the Moderation League's Bill, $73,945. Half of the amount was credited to the revenue of the government, and the other half million was divided among the municipalities on the basis of their equalized assessment.

The Gasoline Tax

There was quite a drop in the number of bills presented compared with that at the 1924 session. It was 143, as against 172, and 114 were duly enacted. One of the most contentious, and that which created the widest interest, was the measure increasing the gasoline tax by two cents to three cents a gallon. It was described by the Opposition as class legislation, in view of the two-cent rebate on gasoline for agricultural machinery, while there was further denunciation of the government for not ear-marking the entire revenue for road construction and maintenance. Supporters of the government repudiated the discrimination charges, pointing out that they could only reasonably be made if farmers were given a two-cent rebate on gasoline they used for automobiles, and as for devoting the whole amount raised by the increased tax to road work, they claimed that reasonable amounts were being set aside for this. More amendments were proposed to this piece of legislation in the various stages in which it was discussed than to any other during the session, but all, with the exception of one moved by Premier Bracken, extending the rebate to gasoline used for industrial purposes, except in the operation of motor vehicles, were voted down.

Another bill of general interest which came in for a great amount of criticism was that amending the Liquor Control Act by providing for the commission meeting "reasonable and expedient" liquor law administration and enforcement expenses up to $50,000. The legislation was placed on the statute books following Attorney - General Craig's declaration that because of the Liquor Control Act the cost of administering the Manitoba Temperance Act had increased. He pointed out that it is impracticable to keep the two acts separate, and forecast consolidation of them at some future session. Mr. Craig further pointed out that even if the commission used the maximum amount of $50,000, municipalities would only be affected to the extent of $30 or $40 per $1,000.

Church Union

Another measure of outstanding importance and province-wide interest was a bill amending the United Church of Canada Act. It was brought forward at the instance of the people in Manitoba opposed to the Presbyterian church entering the United Church, and a feature of the debating was the ardent manner in which Attorney-General Craig, who, though in favor of union, spoke of the necessity of ensuring that the rights of minorities were protected and urged that the bill be given second reading and sent to committee. A spirited reply was made by J. T. Haig, Conservative, who was instrumental in getting the legislation of a year ago placed on the statute books, and the bill was numbered among the slain.

A good deal of legislation in which the farming community is specially interested found its way to the statute books. The government gave legislative effect to plans for the encouragement of co-operative marketing organizations in order to improve to the fullest extent not only productive methods but marketing methods in connection with the basic industry. It also unfolded plans for a survey of the industrial resources of the province, and got $12,000 appropriated in the main estimates and $10,000 in the supplementary estimates for the work; while it went on record as being in favor of co-operation with municipal authorities for closer settlement in organized areas rather than bringing in additional settlers into unorganized districts. In this connection no time has been lost by the government, for the House had no sooner been prorogued than a conference of organizations interested in land settlement and immigration was called and schemes for co-ordinating the work

Continued on Page 19

Early Lambs Pay Best

That is the conclusion of Wm. Darnbrough, one of Saskatchewan's premier shepherds

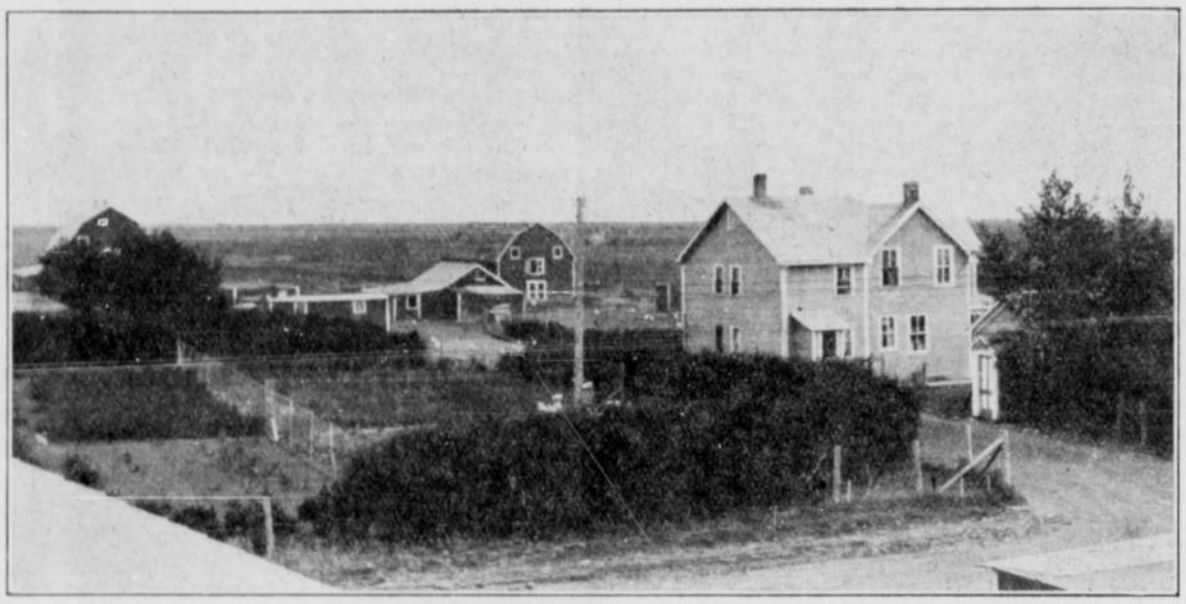
DURING the past year I have had numerous letters from enquirers who are interested in raising early lambs. A number who have tried it say that early lambs cannot be raised successfully in Saskatchewan because it is too cold. On account of the prevalence of this notion, let me relate to the readers of The Guide the results I have had this year.

Having had good success with early lambs in 1924, I decided to try again in 1925. Breeding of the ewes commenced in August. I let the rams go with the ewes at night only. It's a practice which I have found keeps the rams more contented and ensures a more prolific lamb crop. Last August, 28 of my ewes were settled—Suffolk, Southdown and Dorset purebreds, and a few Southdown grades. Shropshires were also tried, but none of the ewes came round early enough in the season.

During the whole of the breeding season the ewes had good pasturage, supplemented with a small quantity of grain when they were brought in at night. As the pasture deteriorated the grain was slightly increased and given twice a day, morning and night. One part oats, one part bran and two parts sweet clover screenings was the mixture I used. I would have preferred a straight half-and-half mixture of oats and bran, but owing to the cost of grain and millfeed, the sweet clover screenings had to be utilized. The ewes got one-half a pound of the mixture per head per day.

Prairie wool and sweet clover hay provided the roughage, the quantity fed being what they would clean up. About the beginning of December I began feeding a few swedes at noon, a quarter-of-a-pound per head, just enough to keep them in good mellow condition.

The ewes were out every day except when it was stormy, for a good breeding ewe cannot get too much exercise. As the ewes approached lambing, a small quantity of corn silage was given them, to ensure a good milk flow. Care should always be taken in feeding silage before lambing, as too much will cause the lambs to be soft. A handful per ewe is ample.



Maple Holme Farm, Laura, Sask.

The home of Wm. Darnbrough. Behind these protecting hedges the visitor will find a garden of abounding profusion and variety. One of the secrets of the owner's remarkable success in sheep husbandry is his use of roots. In 1923, in this garden he had Ox-Heart carrots seven inches in diameter—got 23 wagon-box loads from an acre-and-a-half. "No other work on our farm," says Mr. Darnbrough, "pays us as well as the work we do in our garden."

Telling his troubles to the boss

Last fall The Guide published a photo of Mr. Darnbrough having a friendly rough house with three of his lambs. This picture again, shows the degree of confidence and sympathy which exists between this shepherd and his flock—one of the essentials to success with the woolies.

Lambing at New Year's

The first lamb to be born was a single from a shearling ewe of the Dorset breed. Incidentally I might say this is the first single I have ever had from this breed; all previous have been twins or triplets. This lamb came on the third of January. By the end of the month there were 52 lambs from the 28 ewes, including four lots of triplets. The loss from these up to the present day (April 23), was one of the triplets.

As the ewes lambed they were put into small pens four feet square and allowed to stay about a month. In this manner the lambs get away to a good start, and the udders of the ewes can be carefully watched, an important point, for if the ewe be a good milker, the lambs are not able to take the full supply for a few days. Docking comes about the tenth day in our flock. We find the hot iron far ahead of the knife. The stump takes a little longer to heal than when the knife is used, but there is no loss of blood whatever, and the chances of fatal consequences are very much reduced. At about two weeks of age the ram lambs are castrated, and all lambs, grade as well as pure-bred are tagged. By using ear tags and a pair of scales, the sheep raiser can tell which of his ewes ought to go to the butcher in the fall.

The Part that Patience Plays

Sometimes a ewe with twins will raise one good lamb and the other does not seem to thrive. Plainly, one lamb is getting most of the milk. This can be remedied if there is a ewe with a single with an over-supply of milk by getting her to foster the failing twin. It can be done—though it is a little trouble—by tying the ewe up in her pen and letting the lamb suck. The ewe will have to be held for a few days. Sometimes it takes nine or ten days before a ewe will become reconciled to the little stranger, although they generally give in about the fourth day. I have done this a number of times and have only come across one ewe that positively refused, but she raised the lamb all the same. It was so persistent it would suck in spite of her objections, and, being tied up, she could not object very effectively. If you haven't got lots of patience don't try this experiment, as the ewe has to be held every two or three hours when the lamb is young. I ought to add, if you haven't got patience, don't go in for sheep, anyway.

On Full Feed

By the end of January when all these early-bred ewes had lambed, the succulent feeds were gradually increased till the mothers were getting all they would eat. They were fed at six in the morning with a grain ration composed of equal parts of bran, oats and sweet clover screenings, a medium-sized pailful to 15 ewes, after which they were given a small quantity of alfalfa hay, about one-half a pound per head, and all the prairie wool they would clean up. Water troughs were filled up at this time with fresh water, and they were allowed to rest undisturbed till noon. The noon meal consisted of all the roots they would clean up and a very small quantity of well-cured pea straw, one forkful to about 30 ewes. Five o'clock brought them all the silage they would clean up, then their grain ration followed by alfalfa and prairie wool the same as at the morning meal.

The lambs were allowed the run of the barn along with the ewes when they were a month old. At one end of the barn a creep kept out the dams but let in the youngsters to a set of grain troughs, sparingly filled at first with a mixture of two parts crushed oats, one part crushed barley, one part cracked peas, one part oil meal, two parts bran, and one part sweet clover screenings. During the month of seclusion with their dams all the lambs had learned to eat grain. The above grain ration was given to the lambs early in the morning when the ewes were being fed, care being taken to give them only what they would clean up. Alfalfa follows this early morning grain feed—the best grade of alfalfa that we have on the place goes to the young lambs. After picking away at this for a while they are contented to rest till noon.

Believes in Scottish Practice

Noon time brings them a feed of swede turnips. This last winter my supply of turnips gave out in March, so I substituted silage. I also had some good, green pea straw, and an instalment of this always seemed welcome to wind up the noon meal with.

The night meal—a grain ration followed by alfalfa—came at five o'clock.

In good weather, youngsters and their dams all got out for exercise. During rough weather we kept them pretty closely housed. Every 14 days we put these January lambs over the scale individually, and some of the records reprinted herewith will enable the reader to decide for himself what kind of gains it is possible to make with winter lambs.

Do Winter Lambs Thrive?

These records were just picked at random. I do not think they represent the best in the bunch. I have recorded the weights of three pure-bred lambs and three Southdown crosses separately:

	Southdown ewe lbs.	Suffolk ram lbs.	Shrop. ram lbs.
Feb. 22	38	30	28
March 8	49	41	39
March 22	60	53	51
April 5	72	66	62
April 19	84	79	76
May 2	92	91	89

The three lambs whose weights are given in the following table were all sired by a Southdown ram and out of Dorset ewes:

	ewe lamb lbs.	wether lamb lbs.	wether lamb lbs.
Feb. 22	49	31	27
March 8	59	43	32
March 22	71	51	45
April 5	83	62	56
April 19	96	76	67
May 2	108	85	80

* * *

Grazing time at Maple Holme brings the lambs an unexcelled opportunity to put on weight. At the time of my visit last year, they were exploiting the feed resources of a rape pasture. In this long and narrow field of rape sown in rows, the sheep were being folded in a manner familiar to those who know British sheep husbandry. The rape pasture was divided across its shorter dimension—some 10 or 12 rods—by a moveable fence; woven wire tacked on light posts at two rod intervals. The fence was moved once a week a distance far enough to provide forage till the next moving time.

Doesn't Involve Much Work

"It's a thoroughly practical system," Mr. Darnbrough assured me. "It's not a great deal of trouble to yank out the half-dozen posts and drive them in further down the field. Sheep are not like other classes of stock in this one respect; you don't have to drive the posts in to withstand a shock. As long as the posts are in enough to keep the wire up it is sufficient to keep the sheep within bounds. A system like this provides the flock with fresh grazing all summer. To obtain unchecked growth in lambs it is much better than giving them the whole run of the pasture from the start. It takes less land to get a given increase in weight. There is the minimum waste through tramping the crop down and soiling it, for as everyone knows, sheep are more particular than other classes of stock in this respect. Sowing the crop in rows is also an advantage because it permits of early-season cultivation for the retention of moisture."

"Do you get a sufficient premium on your early lambs to pay for all your extra trouble?" was the natural question to ask Mr. Darnbrough. And his reply: "For pure-bred animals, especially those that have to go into the strenuous competition of the big fair circuit, it is almost imperative that they be well advanced in age within their respective classes.

"But even with the grades it pays," he continued. "As for extra cost, it can't be much for my feeding costs averaged over the whole flock only cost me $2.80 per head. Besides, my lambing is finished when field work starts that's a big consideration. Everything considered I'm sure early lambs pay best."

Seed Savers

By "A Visitor"

COUNTRYMAN (by which name he will not readily recognize himself), on my last visit to him in the Portage la Prairie district, was busy in the midst of a clutter of boxes, paper bags, sacks —large and small—even saucers, teacups and egg-cups. These were containers for various seeds picked in the hurried harvest days and put away then in whatever seemed handiest to masculine hurry and impatience. Now had come those long winter evenings when countrymen have leisure, and now was the time to clean up all this dusty clutter of seeds.

Some were easy enough cleaning up, too. Squash, citron, pumpkin, cucumbers, melons—these were all easy. The squash seed was Countryman's special pride. These were from an extra fine squash, the result of cross pollinating two plants—a job easily done. All these seeds, well dried by now, were placed in small envelopes, the name plainly written in ink on the outside, and the flap sealed firmly with mucilage. They were then placed in neat stacks and stored in a large box.

Children Play at Work

Beans and peas had still to be partly cleaned. They had been picked in the pod, bagged and then tramped. The youngsters thought this tramping great fun, and made a good job of it. The seed was easily separated from the refuse. There were seeds of both green and wax-podded beans, and of early, mid-season and late peas; each variety in separate bags (small table-salt sacks these were) with the names inside on strips of cardboard, and outside in ink on the bag itself. White beans were in larger sacks. They had been picked in the pods, would be first tramped by the children and then run through the fanning-mill. A small plot of ground planted to these navy beans yielded enough for table use and for next season's seed as well.

Corn of Pickanniny, Early Malcolm, and Golden Bantam varieties was strung, two-dozen ears to the string, and hung on the kitchen walls. They would be shelled about planting time. Countryman is particular about his corn. He discards the small kernels from the upper end of the ear and from any irregular rows at the stalk end, claiming that seed must be full sized to produce full-sized kernels, and must be from straight rows to produce straight-rowed ears. He claims, too, that these home-grown seeds—he spoke of peas, beans and corn especially—mature their crops some days earlier than any seeds of the same varieties he has yet been able to buy. He points out as proof that in such a season as the last one, he harvested practically a full crop of Golden Bantam corn grown from his own seed, while early frosts caused numbers of his neighbors to fail of having any. He selects the best of the earliest ears for seed, arguing that these early-maturing ears will to some extent bequeath this desirable habit to their progeny. Having tried many varieties he considers the three kinds mentioned as being fully reliable from year to year; all are sweet corns, and if planted at the same time provide a succession of succulent ears for his table.

Making Labels Clear

His tomato seed is selected much the same as his corn. The earliest ripening perfect tomatoes are chosen, the seed carefully washed—he says it is rather a messy job—and well dried on sheets of newspaper, then collected in plainly-labelled envelopes. He emphasizes these legible labels. They save time in the hurry of spring and prevent mistakes in planting. Anyway, he adds, smiling, "The wife says what's the use of labels if you can't read them?" And as the seeds are sealed and labelled, each in its own container, they are packed in the one large box, all together when wanted.

Countryman is easily brought to vehement praise of Manitoba-grown muskmelons. California's best product in this line he derides in Manitoba's favor, having eaten melons, he says, in both places, and elsewhere, too. Paul Rose and Early Knight are his favorites, and he has saved seed a-plenty. He says his mouth waters now in anticipation of feasts to be enjoyed next summer.

Of native trees he has saved seeds of wild plum, pin cherry, choke cherry, elderberry, hawthorn, hazels and wild grape. These are destined for his windbreaks. The seeds are planted as soon as gathered in the fall. His orchard has supplied him with apple and crab apple seeds, together with a few sand cherry pits. What he will do with these, if they grow, he professes not to know, but he will without doubt find room for all, and more.

Four-Inch Onions

Countryman is proudest of his onions. These are deserving of pride. He grew many last year which were four inches in diameter—some more than that. The largest and those of best shape he stores carefully, by themselves, and goes over them several times during the winter, retaining for planting only those which appear in spring to have kept perfectly. Unfortunately, he has not yet kept record of how many onions he plants nor how much seed they yield, but his seed proves, under test, to be of almost 100 per cent. germination.

In his cellar he has packed in sand the best of his carrots, beets and parsnips, and means to extend his seed growing to include these, and also turnips and mangels. He looks forward definitely to a time when he will, himself, grow all the seed he uses in his garden.

Countryman's wife has her own enthusiasm for seed saving. The annual and perennial flower beds are her special care; but this seed gathering leaves no untidiness in its wake, for she takes a bunch of small-sized paper bags or a package of envelopes—she likes the bags better—and picks the flower seeds directly into them. These are then labelled and done up in one package and stowed away with the vegetable seeds until spring.

That is, stowed away until spring unless friends and neighbors are known to want some. Their joy is to give away to their friends what part of all this seed treasure they do not themselves need. Countryman declared, as a friend offered thanks for the packets of seeds which bulged his pockets, "Don't speak of me selling them. I get more pleasure out of what I give away." This was Mrs. Countryman's viewpoint, too. Their generosity is as deep and inclusive as their gardening enthusiasm. And their seeds grow.

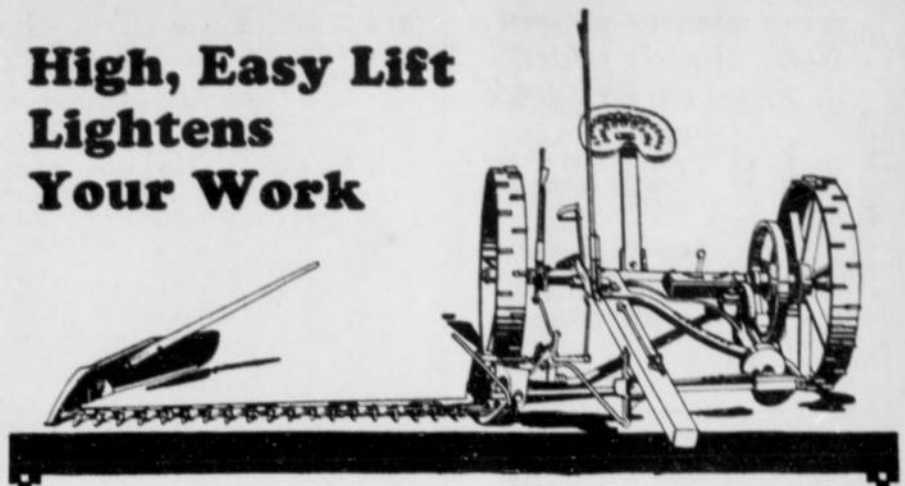
Hog Pasture

Q.—What do you consider the best forage crop for hogs up to about September 1? I have only a small lot of about one and one-half acres on which there was a hoed crop last year. I could keep the pigs out of it till it had made a good growth.—W. D., Sask.

A.—We like the forage that is produced by the cereal grains and also rape. Winter rye will give us the earliest pasture in the spring that we can grow as a forage crop for hogs. If it is sown early in August of the previous year it will usually give a nice green growth of forage which one can commence using between May 1 and May 10, if not pastured too heavily. This pasture will carry on till the middle of June, or until such time that it commences to head out and became rather wiry.

Rape is probably one of the best pastures that can be used for hogs, which carries well on into the fall. It is better sown in rows about 30 inches apart, so that it can be intertilled for a short time during the summer. After it once gets a start it will produce abundant forage for hogs almost till the first of November, depending upon the lateness of the fall. It is a good plan to have the rape paddock divided in two, and when the one paddock is eaten off the hogs can be changed over into the second one, and then the first one will have a chance to recover.—Prof. A. M. Shaw.

High, Easy Lift Lightens Your Work



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John Deere Mower

The Mower with the High, Easy Lift

You can run the John Deere High Lift Mower in any field in which you can operate a rake. The rougher your ground the more you will appreciate this high, easy lift.

The foot lift raises the inner shoe high enough to clear ordinary obstructions and the outer shoe from 25 to 35 inches. With hand lever the inner shoe will pass over all obstructions cleared by doubletree and the outer shoe is raised extremely high. Mower cuts with bar in highest position —not necessary to throw out of gear in rough fields.

Other advantages of the John Deere are: Instant starting of knife; special drive gear construction reduces wear and increases power; no crank shaft end thrust; easily-made adjustments in the fields with ordinary tools; improved construction of cutting parts.

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WRITE TODAY FOR FOLDER AND PRICE

The Rotary Rod Weeder Positively

KILLS WEEDS

SIMPLE—CHEAP—SURE

It is a cultivator, weeder and packer combined. Keep summerfallow clean. Sure death to Canadian Thistle, Russian Thistle, Pigweed or any other weed growing in plowed ground.

The revolving rod pulls from three inches to six inches of weed roots; can be forced to eight inch depth when required.

Sturdy, rugged construction ensures long life.

Northern Machinery Co. Ltd. Canadian Vendors CALGARY, ALTA.

Note the flattened top of this fine kettle. No waste space above the water level. A very fast boiler, decidedly neat in appearance.

Hinged lid at side of kettle for speedy filling under tap or by dipper; being hinged it cannot fall off or get lost.

Handle, extra large rigid, shaped to fit the hand and always cool; being rigid you have perfect control at all times.

Well made, generous sized properly curved spout. Tip of spout well above water line to prevent overboiling or spilling.

This kettle is made in SMP Pearl and SMP Diamond Enamelled Ware, also in nickel plated copper ware. The name Savoy and our trade mark on each genuine kettle.

SMP ENAMELED TEA KETTLE

179

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Slip a package in your pocket when you go home to-night.

Give the youngsters this wholesome, long-lasting sweet - for pleasure and benefit.

Use it yourself after smoking or when work drags. It's a great little freshener

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Speaker—"If our friend will give me his name instead of his profession, I shall be delighted to make his acquaintance."—London Humorist.

Are Selects Expensive to Raise?

Are select bacon hogs more expensive to raise than off-type hogs? Popular opinion says yes, decidedly so. But popular opinion on this point is probably very much influenced by traditions of the American corn growing states, where an abundance of carbonaceous feed and a different market demand create an entirely different set of conditions.

Of all the Canadian experimental stations, that at Lacombe has done the most work with hogs in recent years, and they have just announced results obtained by recording the growth of a very large number of animals. Yorkshires proved to be the most profitable of the three breeds, Yorks, Durocs and Berkshires, the Yorkshires were the most prolific. In the tests for pork production of the desired market type the Yorkshires were easily first. In the case of March farrowed litters they were ready for the market when 190 days old, while the Berkshires were not ready until they were 215 days old, and the Duroc-Jerseys when they were 214 days.

The most significant feature of the test was that the Yorkshires showed an average daily gain of almost one-fifth of a pound a day more than the other two breeds. They cost considerably less per pound of gain, and in total feed cost, and gave over a fifth more profit per hog. In the litters farrowed in April and May, the Yorkshires maintained their supremacy.

Another point brought out in these experiments is that the autumn is a more suitable time for farrowing than the spring.

Old Theory Crops Up Again

If Adam kept a cow, he no doubt speculated as to the sex of her unborn calves. From the number of theories propounded (they are based on the stars, moon, weather, and other wholly foreign objects) one would conclude that speculation was not altogether a present day sin.

And of these innumerable theories the number that survive may be counted on one hand. That is, survive the test of actual observation. Only one that I know of works in a large percentage of cases. A large number work in a few cases, but when it comes to laying them down as a hard and fast rule, they do not bear the acid test.

The one rule that apparently holds water is credited for its testing and advertising to a famous English cattle breeder, Mrs. Hunter. This lady kept a careful record and observation for a quarter of a century, and convinced herself and many others that if any hard and fast rule held good it was as follows:

If a cow gets in calf the first period after calving, she will drop a calf of the same sex as her last. If, however, she misses the first time and conceives the second period, she will drop one of the opposite sex to her last. The third period works the same as the first; the fourth the same as the second, etc.

Now, as Mrs. Hunter admitted, the place where you're most liable to go wrong is in detecting the first heat or period. It is usually very short and consequently easily missed. In some cows it lasts but a couple of hours; in others longer. In cows in good flesh and good breeders, one may expect the first period to occur about seven days after calving. Sometimes, however, a cow will go several months without coming in heat if she is poor, or for various other reasons. But once she comes in heat, periods will follow at regular intervals.

I have had personal experience along this line and have never known it to fail, if I noticed the first period. Several cows that I knew to be nearly sure breeders, come in heat in seven days and dropped calves of the same sex as formerly.

About the same time as Mrs. Hunter was commanding a good deal of space in farm journals, another cattle breeder put forward a theory that entirely contradicted Mrs. Hunter's. But his doesn't seem to work out. He must have missed that first period through carelessness or ignorance. Anyway, the opposite works, so he couldn't have been right.

Horses act the same as cattle in this manner. A certain mare dropped a mare colt, she was bred in the first period and produced another mare colt, and again it happened the same. Following her third colt she was left for more than a year. Her fourth colt was a horse and so was the fifth, sired in the first period after dropping her first horse colt. So one is almost justified in taking this for granted, when other cases work out the same.

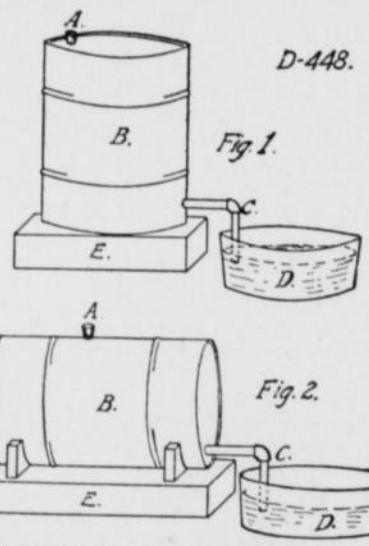
Of course there are cases where the rule will not hold, but then, it seems to me I recall a saw which goes "It takes the exception to prove the rule." Consequently I believe that Mrs. Hunter's rule was based on facts, and has justified itself many times since propounded. —Jack McKillican, Purple Springs, Alta.

Home-Made Hog Waterer

An old subscriber writes:

"I am enclosing a diagram of a simple and inexpensive hog waterer which may be of service to some of my fellow readers. Many farmers have bought 50-gallon galvanized hog waterers for $25 to $35, which may perhaps last only a short time; but here is a durable waterer which will not cost over $5.00 and which many farmers can make for almost nothing.

"Secure an old metal oil or gasoline drum or barrel, a couple of pieces of



SIMPLE HOME MADE HOG WATERER.

pipe six or eight inches long, with an L to connect them together, and you have all the material needed. Fig. 1 shows an upright drum type and Fig. 2 a horizontal type. A is the filling bung, which must fit air-tight; B is the drum or barrel; C is the pipe fitted to the lower bung; D is a tub or half-barrel trough which may be partly buried in the ground to suit the size of pigs or hogs; E is the box or base on which the drum rests. The drum can be raised or lowered on the base to regulate the height of the water in the trough, or the length of the lower part of pipe C can be changed.

"The principle of the waterer is simple, being nothing more than a vacuum feed. Since the drum and bungs A and B are air-tight, the only place where air can enter and allow water to flow out is when the lower end of pipe C is uncovered. This allows air to enter and replace the water in the drum until the rising water in the trough again covers the lower end of the pipe. To fill the drum, place cob or plug in lower end of C, remove A and fill. When A has been screwed up air-tight again, the plug can be removed and the waterer is in operation again. While it is an old principle, it makes use of old gasoline drums and cuts down the overhead cost of hog raising just that much."

Handles Big Stones

Probably the following method of handling big stones may be of use to those farmers working alone, and who have stoney fields to cultivate. After the seeding is completed the next job is to clear off the loose stones brought up by the plow. To use a stoneboat is inadvisable as the runners cut up the land and make it unsightly besides doing damage to sprouted seed. We use a wagon, placing on it a plank bed, then make a short ladder six feet long, and after nailing on the rungs also wire them on with soft wire.

When you come to the rocks too big to lift on to the wagon, place the ladder at the side of the wagon and roll the big fellows up on to the planks. You will be surprised as to just how big a rock you can roll up that ladder.—John Woodward, Astwood, Sask.

Eggs in Several Baskets

That the people in the Tompkins district are thrifty, industrious and content is manifested by the following items which have been gathered from reliable and official records. Although the 1924 crop was far below that of 1923, the farmers of this vicinity have had other products upon which to fall back upon, and the production of dairy products, sheep, lambs, cattle, hogs and wool, shows an immense increase. In 1923, 750,000 bushels of wheat were shipped from here, while 1924 records show that only 163,000 bushels have been marketed through local elevators. To cover this great slump in wheat production, official records show that 90,000 pounds of wool was shipped from this point last fall, which makes Tompkins the leading wool shipping point in Saskatchewan, and to the credit of the local wool growers, it might be interesting to state that the entire clip graded number one, with the exception of one or two very small lots. Fifty car loads of sheep and lambs were loaded out from the local stock yards during the year.

Five cars of hogs were bought and shipped out by local and outside buyers. Fifty car loads of fat cattle were shipped from here to Moose Jaw, Winnipeg, Toronto and Vancouver. Ten cars of good horses were bought in the district and shipped out over the C.P.R. Besides the heavy production of eggs, which were handled through the local merchants, the dairy products leaving here during the past year included an average of 500 pounds of butter-fat per week.

The shipping of cream has increased 200 per cent. over the previous year, and as well as saving the producers much labor and loss as well as many dollars which would (had they not shipped their cream) been lost through the very unsatisfactory system of handling dairy butter. The local merchants have paid the top notch price for dairy butter, all through the year, and were heavy losers, as they were forced to market the product at a much lower figure than what they paid for it. Several tons of dressed turkeys, geese, ducks and chickens were picked up by buyers and packers from Calgary, Regina and other points; these also graded number one, with a few exceptions. While our friends north of town suffered the greatest loss through the drought, and although many of them are fighting a hard battle, it is obvious that they are made of the right material to stick to their guns, and that they will yet come out on the top of the pile.

In the south country, conditions are much better, as the liabilities of the majority of the farmers have been liquidated almost 50 per cent., and they are taking on a new lease of life, with the dawn of brighter days. Many of the farmers in the district, who would have pulled out (at any price), are the ones who are now determined to stick at (any cost). Less acreage, more summerfallow and better farming is the slogan for 1925. This, with the prevailing and ever increasing community spirit and neighborly hospitality, will surely bring about brighter and better conditions. Let us all shake the other fellow's hand, forget and forgive our little differences, overlook the apparent faults of our neighbor, smile and "carry on."—A. B. Chambers.

Egg exports from Alberta increased 33 per cent. during 1923, compared with the year previous, according to a report of the Provincial Department of Agriculture. Three years ago Alberta was almost entirely an importing province with respect to eggs, but last year it exported more than 60,000 cases, or 133 car loads.

Success in Bad Corn Year

Corn is rapidly becoming an important factor in the farm crops upon the prairies, both as a fodder crop and also as a source of grain supply. In our own experience we have found it a valuable asset as feed for our dairy herd, although we have bought no special machinery, and do not use a silo. It is very useful in the late summer and early fall as a soiling crop, when the pastures are done.

Up to the present we have used summerfallow wheat stubble for our corn ground, with very good results. The stubble is burned as early as possible in the spring, and the ground cultivated at once with the duckfoot to cover any weed seeds not burned in order that they may sprout and be killed by a later cultivation just before seeding, around May 25. As we are situated in the heart of the dry districts we find this plan more successful than plowing. It conserves enough moisture to ensure an early germination, which is vital where grain is required of the corn.

The corn is sown with the grain drill in rows from three and one-half to four feet apart; not too deep if moisture is near the top. It can be safely harrowed until several inches high, and most of the surviving weeds killed in this manner. As soon as it is too high to harrow safely we begin to use the cultivator, being careful not to use it too often as it is sure to waste a certain amount of moisture. It is not necessary even to purchase a corn cultivator, as either the duckfoot or the springtooth can be used with success.

We have found that if ears are the main consideration in sowing corn, Gehu is the best variety for this part of the country, while if ears and bulk are desired, North Western Dent seems to fill the bill. The Gehu, if well eared, is difficult to cut with a grain binder, as the ears grow so close to the ground that they interfere with the cutter-bar, while the Dent is handled nicely.

The corn can be cut soon after the first of September to avoid frosts, or can be left and cut immediately after the frost without losing much food value. After cutting we let it lie in the sheaf for two or three days, then stook and feed throughout the fall as needed. It is left in the stook as long as possible after freeze-up, then stacked; one load of corn to the same of straw, oat preferred. The straw derives flavor from the corn and is readily eaten by the cattle. This stack, if the corn is reasonably dry, will keep all winter and provides feed that is practically as good as ensilage, and does not entail the cost of extra machinery and silo. Of course, if you have the silo, use it by all means.

In spite of the past year being very unfavorable to corn, we grew a very nice quantity of succulent feed and still have the ground in excellent shape for wheat in the coming season. Every dairy farmer should grow a few acres of corn to supplement his feed supply; and if he once grows it, he will form the habit.—W. L. May, Mantario, Sask.

Fodder Crops Worth Trying

Realizing the importance of suitable forage crops to the south-eastern part of this province, the district agriculturist at Medicine Hat, James Murray, is arranging to extend the trials of a number of crops that are comparatively little known there. Among these is crested wheat grass, which for several years has been doing well in the drier parts of Montana. It starts earlier than western rye grass, remains productive longer, makes a good quality of hay, and is a heavy producer of seed.

A limited quantity of Teff seed has also been secured. This is an annual grass, coming from South Africa, where it is now the most important cultivated grass. It grows from two to three feet high and produces an excellent quality of hay. Seed of Sudan grass and an early variety of Sorghum are also being distributed to further test them out. Last year under very trying conditions they produced fairly good crops on a number of farms.

An extra early variety of Soy beans, Quebec No. 92, has also been secured. This crop is practically unknown in Alberta, but is yearly becoming of greater importance where it grows successfully. The earliness of this variety makes it worthy of a trial.

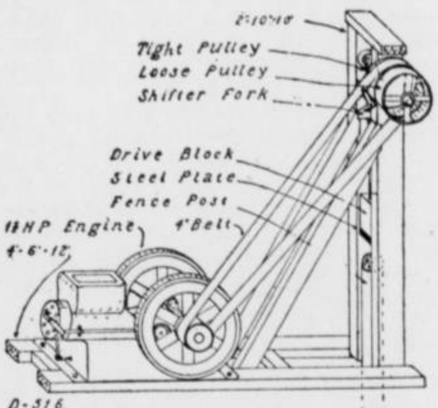
Corn has been more extensively tested than any of the foregoing, and is being planted this year on a larger acreage than ever before. In some localities there is still very little of it grown, and in such places a number of the better standard varieties are being tested out. In some other districts seed of a number of varieties, at present but little known here, is being supplied to a few farmers to get some data on their suitability for our conditions.

There has been a brisk demand this year for corn seed from farmers who intend henceforth to grow their own seed. Gehu, Dakota White Flint, North-Western Dent and Quebec No. 28, have been most popular. Seed of the latter variety has been brought in from Quebec, the others have been secured from Montana and North Dakota.

Power Post Driver

A subscriber enquires as to the possibility of making a post-driving outfit operated by a gas engine. In many sections of the country it is often cheaper and more convenient to drive posts than to dig holes and set them in and then tamp the earth in around them again. As a general rule, this is always done by hand, with a heavy maul or sledge, and the writer knows by painful experience on the old home farm, that while it may be good exercise to develop arm and shoulder muscles, it is slow and laborious work.

We have often wondered why a simple outfit could not be arranged to



POWER FENCE POST DRIVER

do this by gas engine power, somewhat similar to the way a pile-driver acts, and I have no doubt many of our readers will be greatly interested in the accompanying diagram of such an outfit, sent in by one of our subscribers.

This device is intended to be set in a wagon bed or on the running gears, and project over far enough to give plenty of room for handling the post. The diagram is fairly clear, except that it does not show how the driving block is guided, nor the clutch arrangement. Evidently the block is made of concrete, with a steel plate on the bottom, and apparently will weigh about 200 pounds, though the best weight will depend somewhat on the size of the posts and the character of the ground. The driving blocks will have to be bolted solidly to wooden blocks which work freely in well-soaped or greased slides on the 2 x 10 uprights.

The clutch can be any easy working clutch, which throws past centre or locks when pushed in. This could be made from the clutch pulley of a gas engine or tractor, or with a little modification from the clutch of a discarded automobile. A lever could be so arranged that as the weight reached the top of the guides, it would throw out the clutch and let the weight fall, and then be thrown in again by the man on the ground pulling the clutch in again with a rope. A brake should be arranged so that the clutch could be thrown out by hand and the weight held at any desired height or let down as slowly as desired.

Or a simpler arrangement could be worked out by having a tight and loose pulley on the drum shaft, which winds up the rope. Just before the weight reaches the top, it would operate a belt-shifter fork, which would push the belt on to the loose pulley, and this would allow the weight to fall. Then a light weight on the belt shifter would bring the belt back on the tight pulley again.

For working on side hills it may be necessary to adjust the device to make the upright guides vertical. It is hardly practical in a home-made device to make the uprights adjustable with respect to the base. A simpler way would be to fasten a rope to the top of the uprights, pull it to a vertical position and hold it in place with a wedge under the low side of base. In going up or down hill, the uprights could be tipped forward or back in the same way. Where the slope is too steep for this sort of adjustment to be sufficient, it will probably be quicker and easier to dig a hole and set the post in that way.

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Description	Style Nmb'rs	Ins. High	Line Wires	Wt. Per Rod Lbs.	Price W pg.
	5400	40	5	6½	.36
Heavy	7400	40	7	8½	.48¾
Field	7480	48	7	9	.51
Fencing	1048	48	10	13	.74¾
	640	40	6	5¾	.34¾
Medium	742	42	7	6½	.38
Field	942	42	9	7½	.45¾
Fencing	1050M	50	10	8½	.50
Medium	726M	26	7	5¾	.34¼
Hog Fence	834	34	8	6¾	.39¾
Close Stay	0726	26	7	6	.38¼
Hog Fence	1036	36	10	8	.49¾
Garden	1448	48	14	10½	.69¾
Poultry	1850	50	18	11	.78
Fencing	2060	60	20	12	.87½

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Is Square Silo Desirable?

A farm reader writes: "I am planning on putting a 12 x 14 x 14 square silo in my barn, using 10 x 10 timbers ripped from corner to corner to act as corner supports and prevent a sharp corner. On these corner supports I plan on putting a single thickness of lumber.

"Do you consider such a silo practical, and will it make a safe silo for keeping silage from spoiling? What kind of lumber should I use for the side walls? If I fill this silo with shredded corn stover, about how many gallons of water per ton of stover should I use? Any suggestions will be appreciated."

Answered by I. W. Dickerson.

In general I do not believe such a type of home-made silo is very practical at the present prices of good lumber. In the first place, the square type of silo throws a tremendous bursting stress on the corners, since with this shape all the side thrust along the whole side becomes largely a side thrust at the corners rather than a tensile or lengthwise stress such as we have in a round silo. Also it is rather difficult to prevent bulging at the sides, and I do not see how you can expect to keep an airtight wall with only one thickness of lumber. You certainly would have to use two thicknesses with asphalt roofing between. Such a silo will cost you almost as much for lumber, roofing, nails, and labor as will a good stave silo of equal capacity, and will still be more or less of a makeshift affair.

I think you would get much better results at a fifth of the cost by building a trench silo, such as are described in bulletins from the agricultural experiment stations or colleges. If you wish to build a home-made wooden silo, better get a copy of the free bulletin, Home-made Silos, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

The Overlord

G. F. Lee, Midnapore, Alta., sends the following lines, suggested by Churchill's budget, his interpretation being that the new chancellor has surrendered England to the Morgan interests:

You may play with your armies and navies,
You may prattle of prestige and fame;
Be amused with your crowns and your princlings,
And boast of your glorious name.

You may do all these things I have mentioned,
But be ready to discard all play
And leap at the dictator's summons,
And without hesitation obey.

Then come all you proud nations of Europe,
With your banners and standards unfurled:
And bow down at the feet of Morgan,
Of Morgan, the king of the world.

Ripening Tomatoes in Sask.

Perhaps most Guide readers noticed in the March 18 issue a long article as Tips on the Secret of Tomato Culture, but the author was fair in stating that if one has had success growing tomatoes by other methods, he would advise keeping on in the old way.

I believe his method is all right in many ways for one who has lots of time and room to fuss growing tomato plants in the house, but I have no trouble in ripening tomatoes in anything like an average season, by planting the seed right in the garden when I want them and I have no windbreak either except on the south side which is not much protection. You will remember what a cool, backward season we had last year? Well, we had lots of ripe tomatoes and were eating them until on in December.

Now here is my way of growing tomatoes instead of vines. The ground should be worked nice and mellow with plenty of well rotted manure plowed or disced in and just as soon as the ground is warmed up, say from the 10th to the 15th of May, mark off the rows. I do this by dragging a logging chain, then plant from three to five seeds in a hill from 12 to 16 inches apart in the row and the rows from three and one half to four feet apart. To play safe against frost, plant more seed in the same rows between the other hills about a week or 10 days after the first planting, then if the first escapes frost, the others can be hoed out later on. Tomato seed is not expensive. You will find that tomatoes sown out of doors will stand a lot of cool rough weather even though they are of tropical origin. As soon as plants are up nicely, work around them with a table fork to loosen up the soil and the cut worms are not likely to do much damage. When the plants are from four to six inches high thin out all but the strongest plant in each hill, and do not forget to hoe or cultivate these plants if you expect fruit. As the plants get larger and start to bloom, they will send out suckers between the leaf stem and the main stalk along up the vine, and in pruning these suckers out I consider lies the greatest secret of success. People generally think of pruning tomatoes as clipping the tops off to let the sun in, but this is a mistaken idea. When these suckers appear pinch them out, except the very top one and the sun always gets in. Any sprouts that might come up from the roots must also be pinched out, so that there will be left just one main stalk to each plant.

When the vine has put on many clusters of bloom or fruit as you think the season will give it time to mature, pinch off the top shoot to stop the vine from growing taller and you will have the ground covered with tomatoes. If you prefer, before the fruit gets heavy enough to lop the vines over you can scatter some straw beneath the vines to keep the fruit clean, but I do not, as this dry trash tends to attract the frost in the fall. Before I forget, I will say that I grow the Earliana tomato. I do not need to tell you what to do with the red tomatoes before frost comes, but the green ones which have a glossy appearance with usually a brown ring around the stem are called full, and will ripen just as nicely if picked and put in a dark place. The cooler the place the longer it will take to ripen. The remaining green ones which have a fuzzy appearance had better be used up at once for preserves or pickles as they will soon rot.—Vernon Smith, Anerley, Sask.

Potato Selection

When one thinks of the continued abuse by negative selection, to which the potato plant has been subjected by the majority of its growers, the great wonder of it is, that it has not been degenerated more. The use of small potatoes for seed is such a convenient one, and such a profitable one for that year at least, that it offers a great temptation. Though a bad practice from the selection point of view, it possesses at least one advantage even in that respect. Small potatoes do not need to be cut, and therefore escape exposure to disease by the cutter's knife. If such widespread cause of infection is avoided, our task of disease prevention is made so much the easier.

My purpose in this article is to present a plan by which we may secure all the advantages of the use of small potatoes for seed without running out our stock.

The method is briefly as follows: Before the main crop is harvested, dig a row or more by hand, placing the product of each plant in a little group by itself so that it may be easily valuated by the eye in comparison with the others after the digging of the row is completed. If more than one set has been planted to the hill, this method, of course, cannot be used.

If a half-hours study is now made of these groups so exposed on top of the ground, it will be no more nor less than a revelation. Differences, not only of yield, but of shape, average size, proportion of small potatoes, depth of eye, etc., will be so apparent that the grower will become profoundly dissatisfied with the idea of using three-quarters of them for seed. Therefore let him now select the remaining quarter for seed, judging each hill as a unit, taking all the product, big or small, from the acceptable hills, and never removing a satisfactory tuber from an otherwise undesirable hill.

If this is done each year, a bushel or so of highly valuable seed will be secured. While this may not be sufficient to plant all the area planned for the next year, it certainly will be the following year. When the plan is fully under way it will involve the use of three separate bins, a very small one for the select seed, a medium-sized one for the product of this, and a large one for the main crop.

The plan can be started very nearly as well at the time of planting as at the time of digging. Instead of selecting by the hill, select by the tuber, cutting each to one eye, and planting the sets obtained from one tuber in one row. It is evident that by this plan one is at least half a year ahead of waiting for the fall, the chief difference being that the rows are shorter, containing only from six to ten plants instead of from 20 to 30.

If it is never forgotten to take the bushel of special seed from the plot of the similarly selected seed of the preceding year, thus having no year of the use of small potatoes for seed in the direct line of decent, small potatoes may be used freely for all the rest of the plantings, for it cannot do much harm in one year only.

If any man thinks he has no time to keep up this simple plan, a still simpler one is available for him. Let him buy five or ten bushels from a producer of registered certified seed, and allow them to run out by the ordinary treatment, and buy some more after three years.

Let me recommend the registration certification facilities afforded by the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, to every careful grower of potatoes. Even those who already have certified stock are failing in attaining the standing they might have. Registered certified seed potatoes are not only free from disease, but are also descended from high-grade foundation stock, in addition.

One often hears the phrase, "change of seed." Sometimes this phrase carries a meaning, but more often it means nothing at all. If the stock on the old farm is not degenerated by constant negative selection, or better, it is kept up by a little positive selection, it will not "run out," in a climate favorable to potatoes. On the other hand, if all growers negatively select, no matter how assidiously neighbors may exchange their worn-out stock with each other, no improvement will be secured by the mere change of the farm on which it is grown. There is often a great deal of misunderstanding on this point. In my opinion it is far better to get a disease-free and productive stock, and keep it so, than to run the risk of contamination of the land by seed from a neighbor who may not have been so careful.

In my own potato selection work, I am fighting a constant, but I believe, successful, battle to rid my stock of disease entirely. I am endeavoring to keep the following rules until I shall learn of better ones. I believe that some such program of disease prevention is even more important than the selection as described above.

1. Rogue the growing crop, and do it early, before biting insects have a chance to carry disease from one plant to another.

2. Cut the seed only with a disinfected knife, changing knives whenever a diseased tuber is cut into.

3. Do not plant on manured land. This applies more to the producer of high-grade seed than to the householder who does not mind a little scab. In the former case, if the land must be enriched, it can be done by plowing under a crop of sweet clover, and fallowing after.

4. Do not plant on the same land more than three or four years in succession.

5. Give the seed potatoes the same treatment as is given to grain for smut. The strength of the solution recommended is one pint formalin (or 4 oz. corrosive sublimate) in 30 gallons of water. The time of immersion is two hours. This treatment will not destroy internal diseases. I believe the corrosive sublimate is more effective than the formalin, but have not tried it, on account of the necessity of using only wooden vessels.

6. Put all potatoes bruised or cut in digging in a separate bin, and use up first.

In conclusion let me urge that such steps as are necessary to stop the recent increases in potato diseases be taken immediately. Unless such steps are taken, the situation will grow steadily worse instead of better.—Percy H. Wright, Wilkie, Sask.

Relieved of Rheumatism and Lumbago

Now Quebec Man Recommends Dodd's Kidney Pills

Mr. George Tremblay was unable to work, but is now in good health.

St. Marie, Que., May 27 (Special).—"Your Dodd's Kidney Pills have done me a lot of good," states Mr. G. Tremblay, who is well known and highly respected here.

"When I sent for them I was unable to work. I took 10 boxes and today I can do my work and am without pain. I recommend them to all who suffer with backache, rheumatism and pains in the kidneys."

Dodd's Kidney Pills are not put forward as a cure-all, but for the specific maladies for which they are recommended, namely, rheumatism, backaches, diabetes, dropsy, lumbago, urinary troubles and heart disease.

Dodd's Kidney Pills act directly and promptly at the seat of the trouble. They do not cause any derangements in the natural functions of any organ.

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Sample Each Free by Mail. Address Canadian Depot: "Stenhouse, Ltd., Montreal." Price, Soap 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c. Talcum 25c.

Cuticura Shaving Stick 25c.

The A B C of Goose Raising

Goose raising is a very profitable side line for the farm woman to undertake. The outlay and expenses are small and not as much work is required as with most other varieties of poultry. A setting or two of good eggs will provide a start if you have no geese of your own.

As a rule geese make excellent mothers and it is a good plan to set the first clutch of eggs under hens and let the goose set on the second clutch. If your geese wander away to lay their eggs, shut them in where you want them to lay at night and do not let them out till they lay in the morning. After being shut up this way for several days they will lay there without any further trouble. Do not make any nest for the goose, but provide plenty of straw or hay for her to make it.

Do not set more than four goose eggs under a hen unless she is large and the weather warm and never set more than five. You will have to turn the eggs for the hen as they are too large for her to turn. Be sure the nest is very warm and if the hen gets restless before the eggs hatch it is a good plan to put a fresh setter on them to maintain plenty of warmth. After the eggs have been set two weeks they should be sprinkled with tepid water every day. From the twenty-eighth day until they hatch, which will be from the thirtieth to the thirty-second, they should be dipped into warm water every day.

The goslings hatch very slowly, sometimes taking two or three days after pipping the eggs. Do not hurry their hatching, but if they seem too slow dip the eggs every few hours. It is best to take each one away from the hen as they hatch to avoid their being crushed.

Not Expensive to Feed

When they are all out put them in a box or pen and give plenty of water but no food for two days. Then give bread which has been moistened and add about one-fourth as much sand or very fine gravel mixed in. Continue to feed this for one week, then feed mash twice a day and bread once a day for a week, then feed the mash once a day only if they are running out, or three times a day if they are penned up. The mash is made as follows, 4 parts bran, 1 part shorts, 1 part oatmeal, 1 part cornmeal or cracked wheat and 1 part sand or fine gravel. A quantity of this may be mixed and then what is needed can be moistened as fed. Do not wet it but just dampen it and provide plenty of water to drink with it. I have used this mash with great success and find little digestive trouble when using it.

They will not need any feed after the fourth week, but will live on grass and weeds. If they are penned up for the first few weeks a little grass may be cut up and mixed with their feed or sods may be given them.

In hatching them with the goose the method is much simpler. When she shows signs of setting give her the eggs, from 12 to 15, and leave her alone as much as possible. See that she has enough water when she gets off the nest to wet her plumage as in this way she dampens the eggs. Do not disturb her when the goslings are coming out, she will bring them off when they are ready. Teach her to bring the goslings to one place at night and she will come to this shelter in case of sudden showers.

Feed them only once a day when the old goose mothers them unless they seem hungry when they come in at night. After the second week they will not require any feed but what they pick up. For the first 10 days or two weeks watch that the goslings don't get wet. After this, dampness doesn't seem to hurt them. If you notice any signs of digestive troubles give the affected goslings one or two drops of castor oil or sweet oil. A medicine dropper is handy for this, but if a plentiful supply of gravel and clean water is given there will not be any need for medicine.—Roberta Byrnes Gray.

Nearly a quarter of a million bushels of oats grown in Alberta, were shipped to New Zealand last winter for seed purposes, according to a bulletin issued by the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

Raising Turkeys for Market

By Prof. M. C. Herner

TURKEY raising is rapidly becoming one of the big lines of poultry production in the prairie provinces. Conditions seem to be specially favorable for turkeys. An abundance of free range, long summer days, somewhat dry weather, and an abundance of feed, make conditions almost ideal for rearing turkeys. Some times cold, wet weather continues a little late in spring, which may make the hatching season late and the rearing work a little more difficult. On the whole, however, most of these things are made up for pretty well in the long summer days and ideal growing weather in the fall.

Co-operative marketing in car-load lots and the good prices received for turkeys on both the local and eastern markets have played a big part in encouraging turkey raising on the prairie farms. The quality of the product produced by the western farmers has placed their turkeys second to none on any market, which is giving the confidence necessary to make turkey rearing a profitable part of western farming.

Almost everyone going in for turkey rearing knows that it takes four weeks for the eggs to hatch. An ordinary hen will usually make just a little better mother than a turkey hen, as she is more docile while hatching, can be set any place and will not roam so far with the little poults when they are first hatched. Nine to eleven eggs are plenty to put under a hen, while a turkey hen may cover from 15 to 20 quite comfortably. Just before hatching time it would be well to put a small pinch of sodium fluoride under each wing and right above the vent of the mother hen to kill the lice.

The little turkeys, or poults, should be transferred from the nest to a coop placed on a nice grassy spot. If the weather is cold and wet it would be well to have a coop that can be closed or partly closed in front, so that the wind cannot blow over them. This is especially important the first few days.

Rations

As to feed, stale bread pressed out of milk and a little shorts added will make a very good first feed. Three parts of stale bread mixed with one part hard boiled egg and finely-cut onion tops added, will be all right, too. Some feed Johnny-cake the first week or so. Any of these are all right and should be fed three to five times a day the first week or ten days. Milk curds and shorts make a very good feed if there is no stale bread, especially after about ten days. They should also get some wheat or wheat screenings twice a day from the start and water or milk to drink. If possible have a small pile of coarse sand close by where they can get what grit they want. If any show signs of lice put a small pinch of lard on the head of each poult and also under each wing.

When they are ten days old or so they will not need more than three feeds a day. Finely-chopped oats, wheat and barley mixed with milk curds will make a very good growing feed. If it is too coarse some of the hulls can be sifted out. Keep on feeding wheat or wheat screenings. All the soft feed should be fed out of small pans or on clean boards, and if possible these should be fixed so that the poults cannot run over the food and soil it. Usually the poults will be strong enough to let the hen run out at about ten days of age. If the grass or the spot where the coop is sitting has become soiled it should be moved to a new clean place. Cleanliness is a big factor in rearing turkeys successfully.

The Turkey's Enemies

Such trouble as bowel trouble, digestive disorders, colds and roup are most common during the first few weeks and up to the time when they have their first coat of feathers. Dampness and chilling are the two most common causes of digestive troubles and colds, so it is necessary to guard against these. Mouldy food is also a common cause of bowel trouble. In the case of diarrhoea a very good remedy is boiled milk to drink, or barley water as a drink. Boiled rice added to the soft food is very good, too. But in any case the cause should be removed first then try and effect a cure.

Colds and roup are two other things resulting from dampness and chilling. Sneezing and running nose are the two first symptoms of a cold. Generally, too, the eyelids will stick together and later on the bird may show puffiness or swellings in front and around one or both eyes. The cause here again should be removed first and it may be best to take away the sick poult, too. Dip its beak into a cup of coal oil or rub carbolated vaseline into the eyes and down the throat. A little coal oil in the drinking water to form a thin film of oil over the surface is very good, too, for flock treatment. In many cases of colds it pays to kill off the very first poult noticed, if noticed in time, and then follow up with very close care.

Worms, both intestinal and tapeworms are quite common in poults at about six weeks and up. Not infrequently they are attacking them earlier than this. A few drops of turpentine in a small quantity of soft mash is an old-time remedy and is very effective, too. Tobacco, lye, boiled pumpkin seeds, stewed garlic, or oil of snale fern are all very good remedies for worms.

Young Turkeys Tender Animals

These are some of the troubles turkey raisers must be prepared to face. Success in rearing will depend very largely on the ability to avoid these troubles. Little turkeys are more delicate than little chicks, and, therefore, may need just a little closer attention. As they get larger and more rugged in constitution they will be able to shift for themselves a little better. But just the same it is good practice even after they are two or three months old to keep on feeding them regularly. There is nothing like soft mash and milk to make them grow, and they should get at least one feed of this right along even after they are out on the stubble field. When they get to be about three months old or even younger, they will want to roost, so place a scantling on its side somewhere near the coop. Crooked breast bones can be prevented almost entirely by giving them wide roosts right from the start. Poplar poles, if not too thin, will do, too.

It is well to keep in mind the fact that a turkey grows or develops its frame work or bone during the third, fourth and fifth months, and that they must have food to do this, and in addition food to fill out the framework. They cannot get enough for this even though they are out on the wheat stubble. Extra feeding is necessary at this time and will pay many times over when they come up to a market age. The best turkey raisers today are those who follow out a regular system of feeding and caring for their turkeys from the time they are hatched until they are ready to fatten for the market.

Part of last year's flock of geese on the farm of A. E. Halstead, Myrtle, Man.

Poultry Field Day at Brandon

May 30 will be Poultry Field Day at the Brandon Experimental Farms. Prof. Herner will be on hand to assist the farm staff in making the event a highly profitable one for visitors. A competition in judging laying hens will be undertaken.

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FACTS ABOUT TEA SERIES—No. 8

The Consumption of Tea

Tea as a beverage is used in nearly every country in the world. It is estimated over 200 billion cups are consumed annually. Australia leads in tea drinking with an annual per capita consumption of about nine pounds, which means that every Australian consumes from six to eight cups of tea every day. The consumption per capita in England is 8½ lbs., and in Canada nearly 5 lbs. In the United States, it is less than 1 lb., but this is largely because Americans have not been able to get fine teas until comparatively recently. "SALADA" is considered one of the choicest blends on the market, and is the largest selling tea in either United States or Canada.

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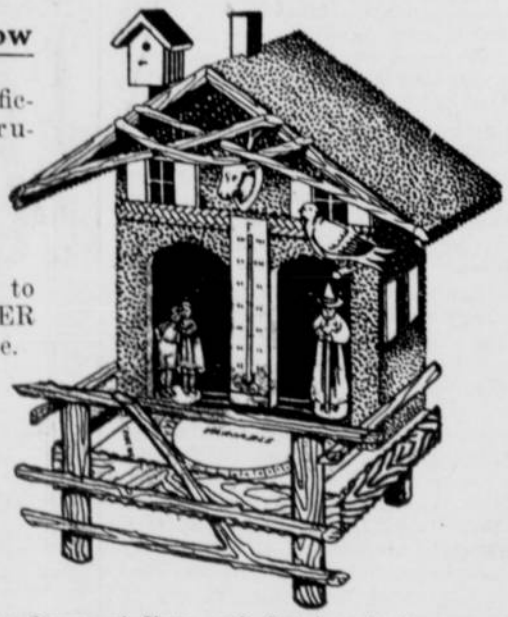

DESCRIPTION—The figures of Hans, and Gretel, and the Witch, are set on a swivel platform, under which is a dial. The old Witch appears when bad weather approaches, and Hans and Gretel when the sun is going to shine. It is painted in colors, both outside and in, and is even more ornamental than it looks. During the summer months you can make the Weather Prophet one of the most valuable pieces of equipment on the farm. Hundreds of subscribers have obtained this unique barometer, and would not be without one now; many of your neighbors have one in their home. Dozens of orders have been received—so, to avoid disappointment, we suggest prompt action.

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The Blind Man's Eyes

By William MacHarg and Edwin Balmer

(Continued from Last Week)

What Has Happened so Far

Gabriel Warden, capitalist, railroad director, owner of mines and timber lands, was murdered while driving in his own car with an unknown man who made his escape before Warden's death was discovered. Just previous to this Warden had intimated to his wife that he was expecting a call from a young man whom he might feel called upon to help, as he had been deeply wronged by some of his (Warden's) friends.

* * *

Basil Santoine, a blind lawyer, who had won national fame for his work in connection with legal business of men powerful in the world of finance, was attacked by an unknown assailant while travelling on a train running from Seattle to Chicago. Santoine was travelling under the assumed name of Dorne, with his daughter, Harriet, and his secretary, Donald Avery. From the first Harriet had evidenced an interest in a young man by the name of Eaton, travelling on the same train. Connery, the conductor of the train had been given special instructions to run the train an hour late, and to take orders from a man who carried a card from his chief, Jarvis. Santoine had carried such a card. Eaton was the first to discover that Santoine had been attacked. Avery and Connery questioned Eaton as to his whereabouts before taking the train from Seattle. Eaton refused to give them any information except that he had recently come from Asia and that he was the young man who had waited at Warden's house on the night of the murder. Eaton had taken a telegram, written in code, addressed to one named Hillward. This, coupled with a second one telling him that: "He is on your train under the name of Dorne," served to fasten suspicion on him, and Connery had him placed under arrest. After a long delay Eaton was taken to Santoine's car. The blind man had his daughter Harriet, describe Eaton's appearance. Then he questioned the young man, who refused to divulge any information either in regard to where he had come from or where he was going.

AND as Eaton went back to his compartment through the open car, Dr. Sinclair looked up at him, but Avery, studying his cribbage hand, pretended not to notice he was passing. So Avery admitted too that affairs were turning toward the better, just now at least, for Eaton. When he was again in his compartment, no one came to lock him in. The porter who brought his breakfast a few minutes later, apologized for its lateness, saying it had had to be brought from a club car on the next track, whither the others in the car, except Santoine, had gone.

Eaton had barely finished with this tardy breakfast when a bumping against the car told him that it was being coupled to a train. The new train started, and now the track followed the Mississippi River. Eaton, looking forward from his window as the train rounded curves, saw that the Santoine car was now the last one of a train—presumably bound from Minneapolis to Chicago

South they went, through Minnesota and Wisconsin, and the weather grew warmer and the spring further advanced. The snow was quite cleared from the ground, and the willows beside the ditches in the fields were beginning to show green sprouts. At nine o'clock in the evening, some minutes after crossing the state line into Illinois, the train stopped at a station where the last car was cut off.

A motor-ambulance and other limousine motor-cars were waiting in the light from the station. Eaton, seated at the window, saw Santoine carried out on a stretcher and put into the ambulance. Harriet Santoine, after giving a direction to a man who apparently was a chauffeur, got into the ambulance with her father. The surgeon and the nurses rode with them. They drove off. Avery entered another automobile, which swiftly disappeared. Conductor Connery came for the last time to Eaton's door.

"Miss Santoine says you're to go with the man she's left here for you. Here's the things I took from you. The money's all there. Mr. Santoine says you've been his guest on this car."

Eaton received back his purse and bill-fold. He put them in his pocket without examining their contents. The porter appeared with his overcoat and hat. Eaton put them on and stepped out of the car. The conductor escorted him to a limousine car. "This is the gentleman," Connery said to the chauffeur to whom Harriet Santoine had spoken. The man opened the door of the limousine; another man, whom Eaton had not before seen, was seated in the car; Eaton stepped in. Connery extended his hand—"Good-by, sir."

"Good-by."

The motor-car drove down a wide, winding road with tall, spreading trees on both sides. Lights shone, at intervals, from windows of what must be large and handsome homes. The man in the car with Eaton, whose duty plainly was only that of a guard, did not speak to Eaton nor Eaton to him. The motor passed other limousines occasionally; then, though the road was still wide and smooth and still bounded by great trees, it was lonelier, no houses appeared for half a mile; then lights glowed directly ahead; the car ran under the porte-cochere of a great stone country mansion; a servant sprang to the door of the limousine and opened it; another man seized Eaton's hand-baggage from beside the chauffeur. Eaton entered a large, beamed and panelled hallway with an immense fireplace with logs burning in it; there was a wide stairway which the servant, who had appointed himself Eaton's guide, ascended. Eaton followed him and found another great hall upstairs. The servant led him to one of the doors opening off this and into a large room, fitted for a man's occupancy, with dark furniture, cases containing books on hunting, sports and adventure, and smoking things; off this was a dressing room with the bath next; beyond was a bedroom.

"These are to be your rooms, sir," the servant said. A valet appeared and unpacked Eaton's travelling-bag.

"Anything else, sir?" The man, who had finished unpacking his clothes and laying them out, approached respectfully. "I've drawn your bath tepid, sir; is that correct?"

"Quite," Eaton said. "There's nothing else."

"Very good. Good night, sir. If there's anything else, the second button beside the bed will bring me, sir."

When the man had withdrawn noiselessly and closed the door, Eaton stood staring about the rooms dazedly; then he went over and tried the door. It opened; it was not locked. He turned about and went into the dressing-room and began taking off his clothes; he stepped into the bathroom and felt the tepid bath. In a moment he was in the bath; fifteen minutes later he was in bed with the window open beside him, letting in the crisp, cool breeze. But he had not the slightest idea of sleep; he had undressed, bathed, and gone to bed to convince himself that what he was doing was real, that he was not acting in a dream.

He got up and went to the window and looked out, but the night was cloudy and dark, and he could see nothing except some lighted windows. As he watched, the light was switched out. Eaton went back to bed, but amazement would not let him sleep.

He was in Santoine's house; he knew it could be no other than Santoine's house. It was to get into Santoine's house that he had come from Asia; he had thought and planned and schemed all through the long voyage on the steamer how it was to be done. He would have been willing to cross the Continent on foot to accomplish it; no labor that he could imagine would have seemed too great to him if this had been its end; and here it had been done without effort on his part, naturally, inevitably! Chance and circumstance had done it! And as he realized this, his mind was full of what he had to do in Santoine's house. For many days he had not thought about that; it had seemed impossible that he could have any opportunity to act for himself. And the return to his thoughts of possibility of carrying out his original plan brought before him thoughts of his friends—those friends who through his exile, had been faithful to him but whose identity or existence he had been obliged to deny, when questioned, to protect them as well as himself.

As he lay on his bed in the dark, he stared upward to the ceiling, wide

awake, thinking of those friends whose devotion to him might be justified at last; and he went over again and tested and reviewed the plan he had formed. But it never had presumed a position for him—even if it was the position of a semi-prisoner—inside Santoine's house. And he required more information of the structure of the house than he as yet had, to correct his plan further. But he could not, without too great risk of losing everything, discover more that night; he turned over and set himself to go to sleep.

CHAPTER XII

The Ally in the House

The first grey of dawn roused Eaton, and drawing on trousers and coat over his pajamas, he seated himself by the open window to see the house by daylight. The glow, growing in the east, showed him first that the house stood on the shore of the lake; the light came to him across water, and from the lake had come the crisp, fresh-smelling breeze that had blown into his windows through the night. As it grew lighter, he could see the house; it was an immense structure of smooth grey stone. Eaton was in its central part, his windows looking to the south. To the north of him was a wing he could not see—the wing which had contained the porte-cochere under which the motor-car had stopped the night before; and the upper part of this wing, he had been able to tell, contained the servants' quarters. To the south, in front of him, was another wing composed, apparently in part at least, of family bedrooms.

Between the house and the lake was a terrace, part flagged, part gravel, part lawn not yet green but with green shoots showing among the last year's grass. A stone parapet walled in this terrace along the top of the bluff which pitched precipitously down to the lake fifty feet below, and the narrow beach of sand and shingle. As Eaton watched, one of the two nurses who had been on the train came to a window of the farthest room on the second floor of the south wing and stood looking out; that, then, must be Santoine's room; and Eaton drew back from his window as he noted this.

The sun had risen, and its beams, reflected up from the lake, danced on his ceiling. Eaton, chilled by the sharp air off the water—and knowing now the locality where he must be—pulled off his coat and trousers and jumped back into bed. The motor driveway which stretches north from Chicago far into Wisconsin leaves between it and the lake a broad wooded strip for spacious grounds and dwellings; Santoine's house was one of these.

Eaton felt that its location was well suited for his plans; and he realized, too, that circumstances had given him time for anything he might wish to do; for the night's stop at Minneapolis and Santoine's unexpected taking him into his own charge must have made Eaton's disappearance complete; for the present he was lost to "them" who had been "following" him, and to his friends alike. His task, then, was to let his friends know where he was without letting "them" learn it; and thinking of how this was to be done, he fell asleep again.

At nine he awoke with a start; then, recollecting everything, he jumped up and shut his windows. There was a respectful, apologetic knock at the door; evidentiy a servant had been waiting in the hall for some sound within the room.

"May I come in, sir?"

"Come in."

The man who had attended him the evening before entered.

"Your bath, sir; hot or cold in the morning, sir?"

"Hot," Eaton answered.

"Of course, sir; I'd forgotten you'd just come from the Orient, sir. Do you wish anything first, sir?"

"Anything?"

"Anything to drink, sir."

"Oh, no."

The man again prepared the bath. When Eaton returned to his dressing-room, he found the servant awaiting him with shaving mug, razor and apron. The man shaved him and trimmed his hair.

"I shall tell them to bring breakfast up, sir; or will you go down?" the man asked then.

Eaton considered. The manners of servants are modelled on the feelings of their masters, and the man's deference told plainly that, although Eaton might be a prisoner, he was not to be treated openly as such.

"I think I can go down," Eaton replied, when the man had finished dressing him. He found the hall and the rooms below bright and open but unoccupied; a servant showed him to a blue Delft breakfast room to the east, where a fire was burning in an old-fashioned Dutch fireplace. A cloth was spread on the table, but no places was set; a number of covered dishes, steaming above electric discs, were on the sideboard. The servant in attendance there took covers off these dishes as Eaton approached; he chose his breakfast and sat down, the man laying one place for him. This manner of serving gave Eaton no hint as to how many others were in the house or might be expected to breakfast. He had half finished his bacon and greens before any one else appeared.

This was a tall, carefully dressed man of more than fifty, with handsome, well-bred features—plainly a man of position and wealth, but without experience in affairs, and without power. He was dark haired and wore a mustache which, like his hair, was beginning to grey. As he appeared in the hall without hat or overcoat, Eaton understood that he lived in the house; he came directly into the breakfast room and evidently had not breakfasted. He observed Eaton and gave him the impersonal nod of a man meeting another whom he may have met but has forgotten.

"Good morning, Stiles," he greeted the servant.

"Good morning, sir," the man returned.

The newcomer sat down at the table opposite Eaton, and the servant, without enquiring his tastes, brought pine-apple, rolls and coffee.

"I am Wallace Blatchford," the stranger volunteered as Eaton looked up. He gave the name in a manner which seemed to assume that he now must be recalled; Eaton therefore feigned recognition as he gave him his name in return.

"Basil Santoine is better this morning," Blatchford announced.

"I understood he was very comfortable last evening," Eaton said. "I have not seen either Miss Santoine or Mr. Avery this morning."

"I saw Basil Santoine the last thing last night," the other boasted. "He was very tired; but when he was home, of course he wished me to be beside him for a time."

"Of course," Eaton replied, as the other halted. There was a humility in the boast of this man's friendship for Santoine which stirred sympathy, almost pity.

"I believe with the doctors that Basil Santoine is to be spared," the tall man continued. "The nation is to be congratulated. He is certainly one of the most useful men in America. The President—much as he is to be admired for unusual qualities—cannot compare in service. Suppose the President was assassinated; instantly the Vice President would take his place; the visible government of the country would go on; there would be no chaos, scarcely any confusion. But suppose Basil Santoine had died—particularly at this juncture!"

Eaton finished his breakfast but remained at the table while Blatchford, who scarcely touched his food, continued to boast, in his queer humility, of the blind man and of the blind man's

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friendship for him. He checked himself only when Harriet Santoine appeared in the doorway. He and Eaton at once were on their feet.

"My dear! He wants to see me now?" the tall man almost pleaded. "He wants me to be with him this morning?"

"Of course, Cousin Wallace," the girl said gently, almost with compassion.

"You will excuse me then, sir," Blatchford said hastily to Eaton and hurried off. The girl gazed after him, and when she turned the next instant to Eaton her eyes were wet.

"Good morning!"

"Good morning, Miss Santoine. You are coming to breakfast?"

"Oh, no; I've had my breakfast; I was going out to see that things outside the house have been going on well since we have been away."

"May I go with you while you do that?" Eaton tried to ask casually. Important to him as was the plan of the house, it was scarcely less essential for him to know the grounds.

She hesitated.

"I understand it's my duty at present to stay wherever I may be put; but I'd hardly run away from you while inside your own grounds."

This did not seem to be the question troubling her. "Very well," she said at last. The renewed friendliness—or the reservation of judgment of him—which she had let him see again after the interview with her father in the car the morning before, was not absent; it seemed only covered over with responsibilities which came upon her now that she was at home. She was abstracted as they passed through the hall and a man brought Eaton's overcoat and hat and a maid her coat. Harriet led the way out to the terrace. The day was crisp, but the breeze had lost the chill it had had earlier in the morning; the lake was free from ice; only along the little projecting breakwaters which guarded the bluff against the washing of the waves, some ice still clung, and this was rapidly melting. A gravelled path led them around the south end of the house.

"Your father is still better this morning?" Eaton asked.

"What did you say?" she asked.

He repeated his question. Was her constraint, he wondered, due to her feeling, somehow, that for the first time in their short acquaintance he was consciously "using" her, if only for the purpose of gaining an immediate view of the grounds? He felt that; but he told himself he was not doing the sort of thing he had refused to do when, on the train, he had avoided her invitation to present him to her father. Circumstances now were entirely different. And as he shook off the reproach to himself, she also came from her abstraction.

"Yes; father's improving steadily and—Dr. Sinclair says—much more rapidly than it would have been right to expect. Dr. Sinclair is going to remain only today; then he is to turn father over to the village doctor, who is very good. We will keep the same nurses at present."

"Mr. Blatchford told me that might be the arrangement."

"Oh, you had some talk with Mr. Blatchford, then?"

"We introduced ourselves."

Harriet was silent for a moment, evidently expecting some comment from him; when he offered none, she said, "father would not like you to accept the estimate of him which Mr. Blatchford must have given you."

"What do you mean?"

"Didn't Mr. Blatchford argue with you that father must be the greatest man living."

"He certainly expressed great admiration for your father," Eaton said. "He is your cousin?"

"I call him that; he's father's cousin. They were very close friends when they were boys, though Cousin Wallace is a few years older. They entered preparatory school together and were together all through college and ever since. I suppose Cousin Wallace told you that it was he— Those are the garages and stables over there to the north, Mr. Eaton. This road leads to them. And over there are the toolhouses and gardeners' quarters; you can only just see them through the trees."

She had interrupted herself suddenly, as though she realized that his attention had not been upon what she was saying but given to the plan of the grounds. He recalled himself quickly.

"Yes; what was it you were saying about Mr. Blatchford?"

She glanced at him keenly, then colored and went on. "I was saying that father and he went through college together. They both were looked upon as young men of very unusual promise—Mr. Blatchford especially; I suppose because father, being younger, had not shown so plainly what he might become. Then father was blinded—he was just sixteen; and—Cousin Wallace never fulfilled the promise he had given."

"I don't quite see the connection," Eaton offered.

"Oh, I thought Cousin Wallace must have told you; he tells almost every one as soon as he meets them. It was he who blinded father. It was a hunting accident, and father was made totally blind. Father always said it wasn't Cousin Wallace's fault; but Mr. Blatchford was almost beside himself because he believed he had ruined father's life. But father went on and did all that he has done, while it stopped poor Cousin Wallace. It's queer how things work out! Cousin Wallace thought it was father's, but it was his own life that he destroyed. He's happy only when father wants him with him; and to himself—and to most people—he's only the man that blinded Basil Santoine."

"I think I shall understand him now," Eaton said quietly.

"I like the way you said that. . . . Here, Mr. Eaton, is the best place to see the grounds."

Their path had topped a little rise; they stopped; and Eaton, as she pointed out the different objects, watched carefully and printed the particulars and the general arrangement of the surroundings on his memory.

As he looked about, he could see that further ahead the path they were on paralleled a private drive which two hundred yards away entered what must be the public pike, for he could see motor-cars passing along it. He noted the direction of this and of the other paths, so that he could follow them in the dark, if necessary. The grounds were broken by ravines at right angles to the shore, which were crossed by little bridges; other bridges carried the public pike across them, for he could hear them rumble as the motor-cars crossed them; a man could travel along the bottom of one of those ravines for quite a distance without being seen. To north and south outside of the cared-for grounds there were clumps of rank, wild-growing thicket. To the east, the great house which the trees could not hide stood out against the lake, and beyond and below it, was the beach; but a man could not travel along the beach by daylight without being visible for miles from the top of the bluff, and even at night, one travelling along the beach would be easily intercepted.

Could Harriet Santoine divine these thoughts in his mind? He turned to her as he felt her watching him; but if she had been observing him as he looked about, she was not regarding him now. He followed her direction and saw at a little distance a powerful, strapping man, half-concealed—though he did not seem to be hiding—behind some bushes. The man might have passed for an undergardener; but he was not working; and once before during their walk Eaton had seen another man, powerfully built as this one, who had looked keenly at him and then away quickly. Harriet flushed slightly as she saw that Eaton observed the man; Eaton understood then that the man was a guard, one of several, probably, who had been put about the house to keep watch of him.

Had Harriet Santoine understood his interest in the grounds as preparatory to a plan to escape, and had she therefore taken him out to show him the guards who would prevent him? He did not speak of the men, and neither did she; with her, he went on, silently, to the gardeners' cottages, where she gave directions concerning the spring work being done on the grounds. Then they went back to the house, exchanging—for the first time between them—ordinary inanities.

She left him in the hall, saying she was going to visit her father—but part way up the stairs, she paused.

"You'll find books in the library of every conceivable sort, Mr. Eaton," she called down to him.

"Thank you," he answered; and he went into the library, but he did not look for a book. Left alone, he stood listening.

As her footsteps on the stairs died away, no other sound came to him. The lower part of the house seemed deserted. He went out again into the hall and looked about quickly and waited and listened; then he stepped swiftly and silently to a closet where, earlier, he had noticed a telephone. He shut himself in and took up the receiver of the instrument. As he placed it to his ear, he heard the almost imperceptible sound of another receiver on the line being lifted; then the girl at the suburban central said, "Number, please."

Eaton held the receiver to his ear without making reply. The other person on the line—evidently it was an extension in the house—also remained silent. The girl at central repeated the request; neither Eaton nor the other person replied. Eaton hung up the receiver and stepped from the closet. He encountered Donald Avery in the hall.

"You have been telephoning?" Avery asked.

"No."

"Oh; you could not get your number?"

"I did not ask for it."

Eaton gazed coolly at Avery, knowing now that Avery had been at the other telephone on the line or had had report from the person who had been prepared to overhear.

"So you have had yourself appointed my—warden?"

Avery took a case from his pocket and lighted a cigar without offering Eaton one. Eaton glanced past him; Harriet Santoine was descending the stair. Avery turned and saw her, and again taking out his cigar-case, now offered it to Eaton, who ignored it.

"I found father asleep," Harriet said to Eaton.

"May I see you alone for a moment?" he asked.

"Of course," she said; and as Avery made no motion, she turned toward the door of the large room in the further end of the south wing. Eaton started to follow.

"Where are you taking him, Harriet?" Avery demanded of her sharply.

She had seemed to Eaton to have been herself about to reconsider her action; but Avery decided her.

"In here," she replied; and proceeded to open the door which exposed another door just within, which she opened and closed after she entered and Eaton had followed her in. Her manner was like that of half an hour before, when she showed him the grounds beyond the house. And Eaton, feeling his muscles tighten, strove to control himself and examine the room with only casual curiosity. It would well excuse anyone's interest.

It was very large, perhaps forty feet long and certainly thirty in width. There was a huge stone fireplace on the west wall where the wing connected with the main part of the house.

Continued on Page 18

The Countrywoman

Alberta's New Property Bill

DURING the recent session of the Alberta legislature, a bill was introduced by the Hon. Irene Parlby, minister without portfolio, which is intended to establish community of property between husband and wife, and was given its first reading. When Mrs. Parlby introduced the bill she made it very plain that it was not a government measure and that she hoped it would not be considered as such. Women's organizations have been studying the subject of the community holding of property between husband and wife for some few years past, and a number of resolutions have been passed asking for this principle to be embodied into the provincial legislation governing property holding and delegations waiting upon the government have asked for some expression of opinion on this matter.

It was not intended that the bill should progress any further than its first reading at this last session. The principle it seeks to establish is still too little understood either by the members of the legislature, by the general public, or even by women's organizations. Any law affecting ever so slightly the holding of property has to be given most careful consideration.

The bill provides that all property owned by either the husband or wife before marriage shall remain his or her separate property, but that which is acquired by their joint earnings or by either the husband or the wife after marriage shall be community property unless it be acquired by gift, legacy or succession to an intestate. There shall be a "head of the community" who shall be the husband, who for the time being will have the management and control of the property He will have absolute power of disposition, but shall not sell, or convey, or encumber the community real estate unless the wife joins with him in executing the instrument of conveyance. The wife must acknowledge, apart from her husband, that the instrument of conveyance to have been executed by her own free will.

The community property will be liable for the ante-nuptial liabilities of either of the spouses, but the separate property of the spouse liable shall be primarily responsible, for liabilities incurred by the husband while he is the head of the community or of the wife for the benefit of the community or debts contracted by the wife for herself and her children.

The community can be dissolved by a decree of judicial separation, by a divorce, by the death of either of the spouses, or by an agreement in writing dissolving it, and the community will then be divided between the spouses or their legal representatives as separate property.

Mrs. Parlby recently attended the quinquennial conference of the International Council of Women, held in Washington, as representative of the Alberta government. Her purpose in attending that meeting as a visitor was to meet with women from other countries to learn something of their property laws as they affect married women and men. On her return, in an interview with us, she said that she had met some most interesting women from the Scandinavian countries and hoped to be able to secure from them, in the very near future, English translations of the laws of Sweden, which have this principle embodied in a slightly different form.

This proposed legislation should receive very serious study in women's clubs. The bill is known as No. 54, The Community Property Bill.

A Farm Woman's Reply

It was with much interest and, I fear, a little indignation that I read the article, entitled The Farm Woman's Lot, in The Guide of April 15. I must say that I disagree most emphatically with the writer on several points. I have lived on a farm practically all my life, 14 years as the wife of a farmer, and feel that I know a little about the subject of which I speak.

True enough we may be the freest and happiest women on the earth in some respects, but we are certainly the busiest. However, hard work is no hindrance to happiness or freedom either. As for our having time to read or do anything else we like, I certainly have not found this to be the case, neither in my own experience nor in that of my friends and neighbors.

I have found that farmers' wives seldom complain about their hard lot, accepting the drudgery and discomforts of pioneering quite as a matter of course. And certainly no other class of women on earth are such close partners in their husband's business.

The majority of people on farms in the West have come from places where the price of land is beyond their means. They have homesteaded or bought land on easy terms here and located with the intention of making this their permanent home. Very few had much capital with which to start and hence buildings were built and machinery bought "on time," and met by crop payments, which means so much out of each year's returns when the crop is sold. Those who have acquired land in this way can testify that it is only by the practice of the most rigid economy that the payments can be made in the first few years—at least. Therefore, we find farm women getting up early in the morning, preparing breakfast for six, seven, or sometimes more people; washing dishes, the cream separator and all the milk utensils, packing school lunches and speeding the children on their way; feeding and caring for the chickens (and in the hatching season this is no small task), hurrying back to the house to make beds, sweep and dust; and on certain days, ironing, washing, baking, scrubbing, to say nothing of the family sewing, which often means making over garments for the smaller members of the family from the cast-off clothing of their elders. Most farm women sew their own bedding, and there is also the never-ending mending and the contriving in every way possible to manage the household as economically as possible. Somehow time must be found for planting and caring for the garden as well as the canning and preserving of the fruit and vegetables for winter use.

In spite of careful planning and the elimination of all elaborate dishes from the menu, three well-balanced meals a day prepared in quantities sufficient to satisfy hungry men who work out-of-doors for long hours, requires a considerable portion of a woman's time. All of which leaves very little time through the day for rest and recreation, however early we may rise in the morning.

Don't ask why we do not hire help during the busy seasons and instal modern conveniences to lighten our labor, for I assure you that is the very goal to which the majority of us are working. A new plow may enable the farmer to cultivate enough more land in a single year to pay for it, leaving the other year's profits from that piece of land to pay for some other necessity or improvement, while a vacuum cleaner would only give the housewife the benefit of a heavy task lightened, and not the cash so sorely needed to meet payments, so the cleaner must wait for awhile.

Were it not for the dreams of the future when our homes shall be paid for and labor-saving devices and comforts within our means, I am afraid a good many of us would give up in despair.

Now do not imagine for one moment that I do not like farm life, and am living with the expectation of leaving it. I enjoy every phase of farm life and would live nowhere else if I were given the opportunity of making a choice. But no one can deny that there is a lot of hard work for the average farm wife in the West where our homes are as yet only in the making. Even now my greatest dream of happiness, since my health broke with the strain of work a year ago, is that I may be able to take it up again where I was forced to lay it down. Had I not been compelled to rest I would not have seen the article by Maude Newcombe in The Guide, to say nothing of attempting to answer it at this season of the year.

I might say that we have enjoyed a fair measure of success in the past 15 years, but it has only been accomplished by hard gruelling labor and sacrifice on both sides, and could never have been attained any other way under the circumstances. At last we are beginning to find the path smoother, as I hope every homemaker in the West will in the near future. I, too, feel that we may attain any goal we like, but that the price paid sometimes seems almost too great for the gain.—Mrs. R. C. Phillips, Alta.

The Heal-All

By Charles G. D. Roberts

Dear blossom of the wayside kin,
Whose homely, wholesome name
Tells of a potency within
To win thee country fame!

The sterile hillocks are thy home,
Beside the windy path;
The sky, a pale and lonely dome,
Is all thy vision hath.

Thy unobtrusive purple face
Amid the meagre grass,
Greets me with long-remembered grace,
And cheers me as I pass.

And I, outworn by petty care,
And vexed with trivial wrong;
I heed thy brave and joyous air
Until my heart grows strong.

A lesson from the Power I crave
That moves in me and thee;
That makes thee modest, calm and brave;
Me restless as the sea.

Thy simple wisdom I would gain—
To heal the hurt Life brings;
With kindly cheer, and faith in pain,
And joy of common things.

The Art of Resting

Fidgety people are apt to get on one's nerves. They never seem to rest but go from one thing to another continuously. They have never cultivated the art of resting, and apparently seem to take a certain pride in that they "have so much to do." At the same time they frequently feel that they are entitled to a fair amount of pity in addition to the self pity they feel for themselves.

People who want to accomplish a generous amount of work, either mental or physical, simply have to learn to relax or they will cut down their own powers of accomplishment or shorten their own lives. Some, without knowing it, have learned how to do this. They can sit down and visit or read for a few minutes, or drop off to sleep for ten minutes quite easily. Others would never dream of sitting down, reading, nor could they possibly sleep until their work is all finished and "off their minds."

Some people cannot rest properly because of exaggerated sense of importance or responsibility. It is a good thing for such people to remember that the world was doing quite a considerable amount of business before they entered, and even if they were to be suddenly removed from this world and its worries, things would likely continue fairly evenly without their presence. For after all no one is indispensable.

If it is worry or anxiety that keeps one from resting it is well to examine one's health and possibly confine one's efforts to the main tasks that lie ahead in a day's work, and forget the smaller and less important things for awhile.

And more important when resting, one should forget work and not talk about it after one has left it. There is some comfort in remembering this thought: "There are two things one should not worry about—the thing you can't help and the thing you can."

Excellent garters can be made from discarded inner tubes of tires. A narrow strip of thin rubber, when tacked around the screen door, keeps it from banging when the children run in and out.—Mrs. A. E. M.

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The Blind Man's Eyes

Continued from Page 16

At the centre of the room was a large table-desk with a chair and a lounge beside it; there were two other lounges in the room, one at the south in the sun and another at the end toward the lake. There were two smaller table-desks on the north side of the room, subordinate to the large desk. There were two "business phonograph" machines with cabinets for records; there was a telephone on the large desk and others on the two smaller tables. A safe, with a combination lock, was built into a wall. The most extraordinary feature of the room was a steep, winding staircase, in the corner beyond the fireplace, evidently connecting with the room above.

The room in which they were was so plainly Basil Santoine's workroom that the girl did not comment upon that; but as Eaton glanced at the stairs she volunteered:

"They go to father's room; that has the same space above."

"I see. This is a rather surprising room."

"You mean the windows?" she asked. "That surprises most people—so very much light. Father can't see even sunlight, but he says he feels it. He likes light, anyway; and it is true that he can tell, without his eyes, whether the day is bright or cloudy, and whether the light is turned on at night. The rooms in this wing, too, are nearly sound-proof. There is not much noise from outside here, of course, except the waves; but there are noises from other parts of the house. Noise does not irritate father, but his hearing has become very acute because of his blindness, and noises sometimes distract him when he is working. . . . Now, what was it you wished to say to me, Mr. Eaton?"

Eaton, with a start, recollected himself. His gaining a view of that room was of so much more importance than what he had to say that, for a moment, he had forgotten. Then:

"I wanted to ask you exactly what my position here is to be."

"Oh," said she. "I thought that was plain to you from what father said."

"You mean that I am to be kept here?"

"Yes."

"Indefinitely?"

"Until—as father indicated to you on the train—he has satisfied himself as to the source of the attack upon him."

"I understand. In the meantime, I am not to be allowed to communicate at all with anyone outside?"

"That might depend upon the circumstances."

He gazed at the telephone instrument on the desk. "Miss Santoine, a moment ago I tried to telephone, when I—" He described the incident to her. The color on her cheeks heightened. "Someone was appointed to listen on the wire?" he challenged.

"Yes." She hesitated, and then she added, in the manner in which she had directed him to the guard outside the house: "And besides, I believe there are—or will be—the new phonographic devices on every line, which record both sides of a conversation. Subject to that, you may use the telephone."

"Thank you," said Eaton grimly. "I suppose if I were to write a letter, it would be taken from me and opened and read.

She colored ruddier and made no comment.

"And if I wished to go to the city, I would be prevented or followed?"

"Prevented, for the present," she replied.

"Thank you."

"That is all?"

The interview had become more difficult for her; he saw that she was anxious to have it over.

"Just one moment more, Miss Santoine. Suppose I resist this?"

"Yes?"

"Your father is having me held here in what I might describe as a free sort of confinement, but still in confinement, without any legal charge against me. Suppose I refuse to submit to that—suppose I demand right to consult, to communicate with some one in order, let us say, to defend myself against the charge of having attacked your father. What then?"

"I can only answer as before, Mr. Eaton."

"That I will be prevented?"

"For the present. I don't know all that father has ordered done about you; but he is awaiting the result of several investigations. The telegrams you received doubtless are being traced to their sources; other enquiries are being made. As you have only lately come back to America, they may extend far and take some time."

"Thank you," he acknowledged. He went to the door, opened it and went out; he closed it after him and left her alone.

(To be continued next week.)

THE DOO DADS

Zeal never can replace brains. One of life's greatest mistakes is to place power in the hands of a zealous but ignorant agent. It is as bad in private life as in government, as Nicky Nutt, of Dooville, learned to his cost. Nicky and his pet elephant, Tiny, had been to the store and bought a fly swatter each, for the Lions Club had proclaimed a "Swat the Fly" day. As they walked home Nicky tried to impress Tiny with the importance of killing flies. "Yes, sir," said Nicky, this is 'Swat the Fly' day. Your job is to swat every fly you see—remember." At that very moment a fly sailed over Tiny's head. "Hey!" yelled Nicky, "isn't that a fly right now!" It was. Tiny, swinging his swatter lustily, made a leap for it, but the fly sailed around a corner and alighted on the helmet of Flannelfeet, the big policeman of Dooville. Flannelfeet was leaning against a post, wishing some excitement might come to that town to make life more interesting. Then Tiny, brandishing his swatter, came tearing around the corner. He spied the fly on the policeman's helmet, and remembered the words of his master that he was to swat every fly he saw. Nicky, seeing what was about to happen, yelled "whoa!" at the top of his voice, but too late. Tiny swatted the fly. He struck it hard enough to have flattened it out if it had been a bear instead of a fly. The policeman saw a million stars, and dropped to the ground. Tiny saw something else which he thought was a fly and, of course, it was his duty to swat it; hadn't he been told to swat every fly he saw? So he tore off across the town, swinging his swatter, and paying no attention to Nicky's yells of "stop, you dumb bell, that isn't a fly." Flannelfeet was just able to get to his feet as Nicky came running up, and was wondering what had happened. He looked at Nicky, at Tiny still running like mad, and asked: "What's the matter? Has Tiny gone crazy?" "Naw," responded Nicky, "he thinks he's chasing a fly." Then Flannelfeet got angry, and started after Tiny to punish him. Nicky ran along, yelling "stop, Tiny, stop!" Then a new danger hove in sight—a beehive, and Tiny bearing down on it like a locomotive. It was a bee he was chasing and it was flying home. Nicky and the policeman stopped and stared. The next moment, as the bee settled down to crawl into the hive, Tiny swatted it. His stroke was no more gentle than when he had swatted the fly on Flannelfeet's helmet. It aroused some ten thousand bees, and they came pouring and tumbling out of the hive. For a moment Tiny stood and stared. He didn't understand. It looked like a million flies, too many for him to swat. But Nicky and Flannelfeet understood. They turned and ran at top speed. "To the lake, Nicky," panted the policeman, taking the lead. "Gangway!" yelled Nicky, trying to outrun the policeman. Then Tiny began to realize what he had done and he, too, ran for the lake, the entire hive of bees swarming about him. It was all right to swat a fly, but bees—that was different.

News for Boys and Girls!

Are you a millionaire or would you like some money for your very own? Knowing that boys and girls like to have a bank account The Guide has offered $50 in cash prizes to members of the Excelsior Club who do the best work in 1925. If you are interested in securing your share of this wonderful offer write to the Secretary, Excelsior Club, The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

The Manitoba Legislature

Continued from Page 7

of the many existing agencies were propounded by Premier Bracken.

A bill was passed incorporating the Manitoba Pool Elevators Limited, and enabling the Manitoba Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited, to construct or acquire a chain of elevators throughout the province for the benefit of pool members.

Highway System

Except for some criticism of the routes to be followed in some parts of the province, the House was at one on the government's plan for a provincial trunk highway system. The legislation was introduced by Hon. W. R. Clubb, minister of public works, who was congratulated by all sections of the Opposition on it, although regret was expressed by some that various cities and towns were not going to be placed directly on it. The work includes the improvement of the Lord Selkirk highway running into the United States and linking up the province with the Trans-Canada highway. Improvement of the Lord Selkirk highway is expected to increase considerably the number of tourists from south of the line this summer, and, of course, the greater the number the more will the provincial treasury benefit from the gasoline tax, to mention only one of the advantages which are bound to accrue to the province.

The usual legislation enabling rural municipalities to borrow limited amounts for seed grain purposes was passed, and in addition Hon. Albert Prefontaine, minister of agriculture, got a bill put through providing for the supply by the government of seed grain and seed potatoes in unorganized territory, where hardship is being experienced as a result of crop failures.

The government went on record as being enthusiastically behind the provincial savings office, which has made steady progress since it was established by the Norris administration. Generous praise of the institution was given by Premier Bracken. Though conditions had been difficult, the Manitoba Farm Loans Association showed a profit of $57,725. In the case of Rural Credits, however, it was announced that an administrator had been appointed for 33 societies out of the total of 74, and a policy was adopted of smaller loans in future and ample security. There was a net loss of $92,504 on the Manitoba Power Commission, but the capitalization was reduced by $1,500,000, and the utility given a chance to pay its way. In the reduction of the capitalization Mr. Clubb had the support of the whole house, which expressed the opinion that a much more satisfactory showing could be expected from the provincial hydro next year.

Birtle Demonstration Farm

The Birtle demonstration farm is likely to be attached to the Manitoba Agriculture College as an experimental station in future. Hon. T. C. Norris, whose government established it, admitted that the farm had failed to demonstrate that a man could make a living on a half-section of land. This, however, he attributed to the system followed of charging ordinary expenses to capital account, and he claimed that if he had been the owner of the farm he could have made it pay. It was just a case of government officials instead of practical men operating it, he indicated. Mr. Norris made the suggestion about using the farm as an experimental station, and he mentioned that the only alternative was to dispose of it altogether. Mr. Prefontaine seemed to favor the former suggestion, but asked for time to consider the matter.

The usual resolution urging early completion of the Hudson Bay Railway by the federal government was passed unanimously, and the legislature did something practical in addition, voting $2,500 as a grant to the On-to-the-Bay Association. Other resolutions adopted urged the Dominion government to make a revaluation of the stock, implements and lands purchased under the Soldier Settlement Act in order to relieve soldier settlers of the burden caused by purchase made at a time when prices were inflated, and called the attention of the powers that be at Ottawa to the needs of the people in the coal strike area of Cape Breton.

A resolution of outstanding importance resulted in a special committee being appointed to investigate during the recess the organization and share-selling activities of the Hearst Music Publishers Limited, and the Farmers' Packing Company, etc. The object is to obtain information that will be useful in getting the Sale of Shares Act amended in a way that will prevent people in the province from suffering heavy financial losses. The resolution was proposed by Mr. Norris, but the composition of the committee was the idea of I. Griffiths, government member for Russell, Mr. Norris having suggested a royal commission consisting of the chief justice of the Court of King's Bench, a suggestion that was strongly opposed by Major Taylor.

Educational Matters

In the matter of education, Hon. Charles Cannon announced that the policy of the government was to see that no elementary school was closed for lack of funds, and that more money than ever would be spent on the public schools. The Public Schools Act was amended to enable the government to guarantee bank loans to school districts to the extent of $500,000. While as much economy as possible in connection with the University of Manitoba, the Manitoba Agricultural College, and the secondary schools was urged by the government, nothing was done to impair the services demanded by the public. The curricula at the elementary and secondary schools are under consideration, and at the next session of the legislature the advisory committee of the education department will submit a report based on the findings of a review committee which has been active for some time.

Ulterior motives were attributed to the government with reference to legislation reducing the transportation grant to consolidated schools by 10 per cent. It was explained by the government, however, that even with this reduction, the grant would be higher than in other provinces, and that as against this cut a system had been adopted of bonusing teachers who remained in charge of one-room schools. Mr. Cannon said he wanted it clearly understood throughout the province that the reduction in the transportation grant was not to be interpreted as indicating that the government contemplated the ultimate destruction of the consolidated school system.

A teachers' retirement fund was established as the result of a bill introduced by Mr. Cannon. The teachers themselves will contribute to the fund to the extent of one per cent. of their salaries. There was some criticism of the government for not contributing, but Mr. Cannon made it clear that the legislation was just what had been demanded by the teaching profession.

Amendments were made to the city charters of Winnipeg, Brandon and St. Boniface, and a good deal of legislation was enacted with regard to rural municipalities.

Helping Harassed Suburbs

Two contentious bills that helped to prolong the session, because of the lengthy discussions in connection with them, were for the inclusion of the town of Brooklands in Winnipeg, and for the creation of a Winnipeg suburban municipal board. The former was withdrawn following development of a conciliatory attitude on the part of Winnipeg and Brooklands with regard to water and sewer facilities required by the town. The latter, which was sponsored by Hon. D. L. McLeod, municipal commissioner, was enacted. The object is to help financially harassed suburban municipalities out of their difficulties. Mayors and reeves of municipalities that come within the jurisdiction of the board will form the personnel, with a chairman appointed by order-in-council—W. E. Hobbs has since been selected—till the fall elections, when a second representative will be elected by the municipality. Councils in the districts represented will go out of existence. The legislation was the outcome of an investigation, during the recess, by a special committee into the situation in which suburban municipalities find themselves, with expenditure and indebtedness piling up and sources of revenue limited. One idea was to have a metropolitan area with Winnipeg as the centre, but Winnipeg fought shy of the proposal, and St. Boniface also declined to have anything to do with it.

Legislation for the compulsory treatment of drug addicts was passed at the instance of Hon. D. L. McLeod.

While the revenue outlook is hopeful, it must not be overlooked that the government has new obligations arising out of its policy in adopting a sinking fund, in order to maintain the credit of the province in the financial markets of the world; new expenditures resulting from the increased assistance to weak schools; an additional appropriation to care for part of the agricultural extension program previously financed by Dominion grant, and new expenditure for the added staff and patients in the new wings at both mental hospitals.

All the same, there is much in the general situation to warrant optimism as to the financial position of the province at the end of the new fiscal year, which, by the way, will be April 30, 1926, instead of August 31, as in the last fiscal period.

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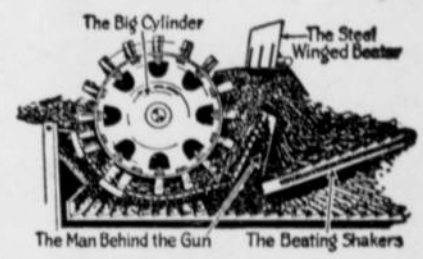

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EDEN GROVE FARM S. C. W. LEGHORN hatching eggs, now half price, $2.00 per 15; $8.00 per 100. Tamworth weanlings, either sex, $10. John T. Urquhart, Unity, Sask. 20-2

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McOPA FARM BRED-TO-LAY BARRED Rocks, winners of upwards of 30 prizes in last two provincial egg-laying contests, Brandon. Eggs balance of season to June 20, $1.50 per setting, delivered. W. R. Barker, Deloraine, Man. 20-2

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STANFIELD'S LICE-KILL. NO DUSTING, dipping or odor. Kills every louse or money refunded. Big tube treats 200 birds, 60 cents, or $1.00 brings two big tubes. Postpaid. Winnipeg Veterinary and Breeders' Supply Co. Ltd., Winnipeg, Man.

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PURE-BRED ROSE COMB RHODE ISLAND Red eggs, $1.50 per 15, laying strain. R. Fillatrault, Lebret, Sask. 17-5

ROSE COMB REDS, HEAVY LAYERS, EGGS, $2.00, 15. L. Hoffarth, Gull Lake, Sask. 17-5

Turkeys, Ducks and Geese

PURE-BRED WHITE HOLLAND TURKEY eggs, flock headed by Brandon prize-winning tom, nine, $2.75; 18, $5.25. Mrs. Major, Willows, Sask. 15-7

GOLDBANK BRONZE TURKEYS. AFTER 15th May, eggs, 15, $3.75; 30, $6.50. Mrs. E. Miller, Dysart, Sask. 19-3

DUCKLINGS PEKINS. WRITE HARRONA Bros., Beulah, Man. 13-9

Various

SELLING—PURE-BRED PEARL GUINEA EGGS, $1.00 per 13. Arthur Soll, Foam Lake, Sask.

POULTRY

Wyandottes

WHITE WYANDOTTE HATCHING EGGS, from stock from Martin's best Dorcas matings, dam's records, 202 to 267. Sires, New York State and Fair winners. Prices, 10c., 15c. and 20c. each. Satisfaction guaranteed. J. A. Larson, Fort Saskatchewan, Alta., member R.O.P. 17-3

PURE-BRED ROSE COMB WHITE WYANdotte eggs, Martin's Regal-Dorcas strain. Hens mated to cockerels hatched from Martin's pens, Nos. 1 to 10. Winter layers, free range, $1.50 for 15; $3.75 for 60; $7.00 for 120. Victor Fells, Girvin, Sask. 13-8

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MARTIN'S REGAL WHITE WYANDOTTES, July hatched pullets lay in January, eggs from open range, 30, $2.50; 100, $7.00. John Hiscock, Baldur, Man. 21-5

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FARMING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA ON THE lands adjacent to the Pacific Great Eastern Railway offers exceptional opportunity to prospective settlers. These areas are peculiarly adapted for mixed and dairy farming. Climatic conditions are ideal. Crop failures are unknown. Only a small portion of British Columbia is suitable for farming purposes, so a steady market is at all times assured. Schools in these districts are established by the Department of Education where there is a minimum of ten children of school age. Transportation on the line is given at half rates to intending settlers. Prices range from $3.00 to $10 per acre with 16 years to pay. Full information on application to R. O. Wark, Pacific Great Eastern Railway Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

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160 ACRES, HALF-MILE FROM KETCHEN, Sask., 55 acres under plow, 40 acres good meadow, balance brush pasture; five-room house, barn, granary, hen house, etc. A fine farm and home for only $1,800, on easy terms. Write Walch Land Co., Winnipeg, Manitoba. 21-2

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SELL YOUR PROPERTY QUICKLY FOR CASH no matter where located. Particulars free. Real Estate Salesman Co., Dept. 18, Lincoln, Neb. tf

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WANTED—TO HEAR FROM OWNER OF FARM for sale. O. K. Hawley, Baldwin, Wis 17-5

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Various

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SELLING—SEED OATS AND FEED OATS, lowest prices, best quality. W. Greer, Lashburn, Sask. 18-4

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WHITE BLOSSOM SWEET CLOVER SEED, scarified, cleaned, eight cents per pound, bagged, graded, tested, 95% germination. R. H. Tiernan, Deloraine, Man. 20-2

MILLET—HOG, EARLY FORTUNE, COMMON, 6c. lb., sacked, government tested, re-cleaned. Rye grass seed, government tested, re-cleaned, 7c. lb., sacked. Kenneth Elliott, Carnduff, Sask.

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Will Sell Like Hot Cakes During the Next Two Months

More Power Per Dollar

More farmers are buying through the special FARM MACHINERY section of the Farmers' Market Place every year. More are finding a classified ad. in The Guide a quick and satisfactory method of selling haying or threshing machinery, tractors, plows or anything in the machinery line. W. J. Lee, of Munson, Alberta, says:

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More farmers advertise in The Guide than in all the farm journals put together—proving that with these men results count, and remember, the first man on the market usually commands the highest price—so send in your ad. today.

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

SEEDS

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LIMITED QUANTITY WHITE BLOSSOM sweet clover, scarified, recleaned, free noxious weeds, to clear 10c. pound. Sacks free. Percy G. Proctor, Primate, Sask.

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FOR SALE—YELLOW BLOSSOM SWEET clover seed, cleaned and scarified, 15c. per pound. J. K. McLennan, Gladstone, Man. 17-5

BROME GRASS SEED FOR SALE, GOVERNMENT tested, 500 bushels, 12c. per pound, sacked. John Conn, Innisfail, Alta. 17-6

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80c f.o.b. Brandon

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MACHINERY and AUTOS

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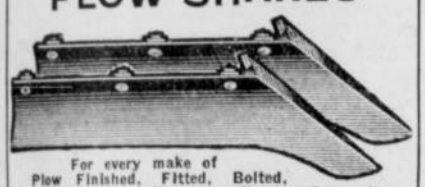

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12-inch	14-inch	16-inch	18-Inch
$2.65	$3.00	$3.30	$3.65

Give Number of Old Shares when ordering.

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BARGAINS—SEPARATORS, COMPLETE, 28-inch Rumely, $800; 28-in. Red River, $850; 40-in. Case, $700; 36-in. Case, $500; 28-in. Fairbanks, $750; 32-in. Sawyer-Massey, $350; 36-in. White, $250; Fordsons, $200 up; Titans, $250; 15-30 Rumely, $700; 25-H.P. International, $250; three-furrow plows, $75; Fords, $85 up. Above all in running order. C. S. Jones, Roland, Man. 21-5

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF AN ENGINE GANG in any size from three-bottom up, we will quote you exceptionally low price on new stock. These are Avery Cockshutt plows. It will pay you to get our prices. Canadian Avery Co., Winnipeg and Regina. 17-5

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THREE SIX-BOTTOM LACROSSE DISC plows, also two 24-inch Cockshutt trush breakers, in A1 condition. Address, J. L. Davy, Bowsman, Man. 20-4

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RECOVERS FOR AUTO TOPS—RECOVERS installed on old frames without extra charge. Winnipeg Top and Trimming Co. Ltd., 780 Portage Ave., Winnipeg. 49-26

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FOR SALE—GRAY TRACTOR, A1 CONDITION, $800. Sydney Dash, Kipling, Sask. 21-6

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MISCELLANEOUS

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The Cheerful Plowman

By J. Edw. Tufft

The Cow that Won't Lead

I have a cow named Plodder, of dim, uncertain breed, whom neither force nor fodder can ever coax to lead. On nearly all occasions she is a cheerful beast, not subject to evasions nor stubborn in the least. She never hooks a neighbor nor breaks a patent gate, she never shirks a labor nor loots a cabbage crate. She is a gentle feeder, she's pleasant in her stall; comes quickly when you need her, and never frets at all. In fact she is a dandy, a cow for every need, so kindly and so handy, and yet—she will not lead! When she perceives a halter is clamped about her neck no sermon in the Psalter can make her move a speck!

She tries my patience sadly, she often stirs my ire, she starts me chanting madly, she kindles temper fire; yet, later when I ponder I audibly confess, "Poor Plodder over yonder is like myself, I guess!" I, too, am fairly quiet in normal walks of life; I seldom start a riot and never beat my wife; I think I'm sane and pleasant about the barn and house, a tactful sort of peasant, as harmless as a mouse—till someone gets a halter, and says, "See, here, my man, you must not fight nor falter, but toady to my plan! It's up to you to follow, to tag along behind; you must not balk nor wallow, but step along and mind!" Well, that is where my nature takes on a sudden turn, that baffles nomenclature and makes me taut and stern! That's where myself and Plodder are very much agreed, for neither force nor fodder can ever make me lead!

MISCELLANEOUS

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LUMBER, SHINGLES, MILLWORK—CAR lots at wholesale prices direct to consumer. Price lists, information and estimates free. Coast and Prairie Lumber Company, Vancouver, B.C. 19-9

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STRAWBERRIES

1 case, **$3.50** per case; 10-case lots, **$3.00** per case. Try our special combination offer: 1 Strawberry, **$3.50**; 1 Raspberry, **$2.75**; 1 Loganberry, **$2.75**; 1 Blackberry, **$2.50**; 1 Gooseberry **$2.25**; 1 Black Currant, **$3.50**.

Order one each of the above and receive 10 per cent. discount; or on 10-case lots a discount of 25 cents per case. We guarantee all fruit to reach you in good order or we will replace it. Money Order must accompany your order. All prices f.o.b. Vancouver. In case there is no agent at your station please send money for prepayment of express.

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RASPBERRIES, OHTA AND LATHAM, 100, $6.00; dozen, $1.00; Everbearing Progressive strawberries, 100, $5.00; dozen, 75c.; Senator Dunlap strawberries, $2.50; dozen, 60c.; Black Currants, Iris, Lilac (white, pink and purple), 20c. each; Virginia creepers, 10c.; Asparagus roots and Caragana trees, dozen, 40c.; 100, $2.50. Postpaid. Nelson Clark, Treesbank, Man 17-5

CHAMPION EVERBEARERS—FRUIT 100 DAYS after planting, green and fresh, no runouts. Our stock direct originator, $5.00 100, postpaid, $1.00 doz. June-bearing, $2.25, 100, postpaid. Pittman, Wauchope, Sask. 21-3

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SHEEP SHEARS SHARPENED—OUR TEN years' experience is your guarantee for satisfaction, 35c. per pair, plus postage. New plates supplied, postage paid, $1.35 per pair. George Langtry Hardware, Tessier, Sask. 19-5

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EXCLUSIVE TERRITORY.

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PRODUCE

LIVE POULTRY, EGGS AND POTATOES WANTED

No. 1 White Potatoes	**55c per bus.**
No. 1 Red Potatoes	**50c per bus.**

Potato Sacks supplied 5c per sack extra.

Hens, 6 lbs. and over, **19-20c**; 4-5 lbs.,	**15-17c**
Young Roosters	**13-15c**
No. 1 Turkeys, 8-13 lbs.	**15-17c**

All prices f.o.b. Winnipeg and guaranteed until June 15. Cash payments. Write for crates if required.

ROYAL PRODUCE CO.
97 AIKINS STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

LIVE HENS WANTED

HENS over 6 lbs., extra fat,	21c
over 5 lbs.,	18c
4-5 lbs., good condition,	15c
under 4 lbs., good condition	13c
Ducks, good condition, any size	17c
Roosters, 1 year old, good condition	12c
Old Roosters	9c
Turkeys, over 10 lbs.	13c
Turkeys, under 10 lbs., good condition	17c

All prices live weight, f.o.b. Winnipeg. Guaranteed until June 10, inclusive. Write for crates if required.

GOLDEN STAR FRUIT AND PRODUCE CO.
91-95 LUSTED STREET, WINNIPEG

EGGS and Live POULTRY

Unlimited quantities strictly Fresh Eggs wanted. **Top Market Prices** guaranteed—according to government grade—day received.

Live Poultry Prices, f.o.b. Winnipeg:

Hens, over 6 lbs.,	20c; 5-6 lbs., 18c; 4-5 lbs. 15-16c
Spring Chickens, good condition	15-16c
Turkeys, over 9 lbs., good condition	16c
Old Roosters	10c
Ducks 18 **Geese**, over 11 lbs.	12c

Prompt payments. Crates on request.

STANDARD PRODUCE CO.
45 CHARLES STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

Southern Alberta's wool growers received an average of 34 cents a pound for the wool marketed through the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers' Association during the past season, according to an annoucement made by the Lethbridge representative of the pool.

Fruit Growers Brighten Up

Continued from Page 4

best price the producers have received for years, and has made prompt payments therefore. Its achievement in this respect has aroused a new enthusiasm in the Fraser River Valley for co-operation.

The Anti-Dumping Clause

Enough has been said to indicate along broad lines just why hope is reviving in the fruit growing valleys of the coast province, but there is one other factor entering into the situation which a word or two might be said with profit to all concerned. This pertains to the application to fruit of the provisions of the anti-dumping clause of the tariff. The one thing above all others the hard-pressed fruit growers of British Columbia would ask the equally hard-pressed wheat growers of the prairie provinces to understand is that we have no desire whatever to invoke this provision of the tariff unless driven to it by price levels that spell ruination. The best evidence one can produce in support of this assertion is that throughout the selling season just closed, when price levels for fruit were fairly well maintained, there was no movement whatever on the part of B.C. growers to take advantage of the anti-dumping act. There will be no movement to benefit by its provisions during the approaching season unless a threat of cheap importations of American surplus production tends to demoralize the market. And we would ask our prairie friends to remember this important fact: The fruit growers of British Columbia have never asked for the enforcement of the anti-dumping clause excepting when fruit is being sold at very low prices and its application, while but slightly increasing the price to the consumer, has never given the producer a profit. In every case where this feature of the protective tariff has been applied it has done nothing more for the producer than to slightly lessen his inevitable loss. A clear understanding of these facts, which cannot be successfully challenged, would doubtless remove much of the objection to the anti-dumping clause insofar as it is applied to protect the fruit grower.

Pressure for imposition of the anti-dumping clause on the part of the B.C. grower is a signal of distress, an "S.O.S." call, and not the flaunting of a flag of piratical intent. Our best hope at the present time is that with the prevalence of fair prices in the future, this flag will remain unfurled for years to come, as it did throughout the season of 1924. If it does all concerned should be well satisfied.

Our Ottawa Letter

Continued from Page 3

cattle export trade, the cheese trade, the butter trade and the trade in various important Canadian commodities have been seriously injured by excessive ocean rates.

A "Petersen" Ship

It may or may not have been a mere coincidence that while the committee was sitting one of the Petersen line of steamships, the Riodorado, arrived at Montreal, in ballast. H. J. Symington, K.C., counsel for the committee, brought the captain and the chief engineer to Ottawa as witnesses. The captain testified that his vessel, which is of the new "corrugated" type, had travelled at 12½ knots an hour, and consumed only 23 tons of coal per day, as against a knottage of 8½ on the part of the Canadian Mercantile Marine's best boat, and a daily consumption of 35 tons. The Riodorado has contracted for a cargo of grain for the return trip, and the captain declared that even on low price in commodities the vessel would make a net profit on its voyage of £1,650 sterling. Sir William Petersen, head of the fleet, who has sat consistently throughout the meetings of the committee, has not yet himself been heard.

It is expected that the committee will conclude its deliberations about the middle of next week. There is little doubt that it will confirm the Preston report, but there is some doubt as to whether or not it will recommend an alternative proposal to that of the Petersen contract.

The New Grain Act

Progressive members are organizing themselves for consideration of the new grain act, which has been submitted to the committee on agriculture. A list of sub-committees has been drawn up, the duty of which will be to consider carefully the various phases of the new act. To A. M. Carmichael, T. W. Bird, L. H. Jelliff and R. A. Hoey, has been consigned the task of consideration of the section of licensing and bonding, standard board, survey board, sale by sample, weight per bushel, fees, weighmasters and offences and penalities. To E. N. Hopkins, H. Leader, A. Speakman and W. J. Lovie has been consigned the task of considering the questions of inspection generally, and the eastern and western inspection divisions in particular.

G. G. Coote, J. Steedsman, N. H. McTaggart and C. C. Davis are entrusted with the task of studying special grades and grading. D. F. Kellner, T. Sales, Hon. T. A. Crerar, R. Gardiner and J. Evans, will study terminal and public and private elevators. O. R. Gould, J. Brown, H. E. Spencer, J. F. Johnston and R. Milne, will consider the question of country elevators. Study of the question of loading platforms, car and car order books, commission merchants, primary grain dealers and tract buyers has been entrusted to L. P. Bancroft, M. N. Campbell, W. T. Lucas, J. A. Lewis and C. W. Stewart. To D. M Kennedy, A. Knox, Robert Forke, A. Beaubien and T. H. McConica has been entrusted the task of studying interpretation and schedules; while W. J. Ward, J. Morrison, E. J. Garland and D. W. Warner have been assigned to study general provisions, offences and penalties and expenses of administration.

From present indications, western members are in favor of the proposed amendments to the Grain Act, which are based upon the Turgeon report, and there is a strong feeling that the calling of witnesses before the committee is unnecessary.

During the week the Banking and Commerce Committee gave some attention to the report of Dr. Tory on rural credits, and after a brief consideration of the report in question, recommended to the House that legislation should be brought down at the present session to implement his findings.

Sask. Debt Adjustment Bureau

A further extension of the Saskatchewan Debt Adjustment Bureau is outlined in the third annual report of the commissioner, Edward Oliver, which has just been made public. "We have been requested," Commissioner Oliver states, "in a large number of cases to act as trustees for moneys that were in dispute between farmers. The money has been forwarded to the bureau with the request that it be distributed in an equitable manner, both parties agreeing to abide by the decision of the commissioner, and in no case has any criticism been made to us after the money has been distributed."

The report reviews the work of the bureau during the year, including the consultations between the creditor and debtor interests in the province. The commissioner expresses the opinion that a great deal of good resulted from the conferences.

"The following are some figures giving in a concise manner the work of the bureau since its inception:

"The number of cases dealt with in each year was: in 1921-22, 3,500; in 1922-23 there were 2,000 new cases and 2,623 old; in 1923-24 there were 1,800 new and 4,000 old cases; 1924-25 there were 2,040 new and 5,750 old cases. There are now 1,500 files which cannot be considered closed as it is necessary to refer to them from time to time each year.

"The amounts involved in each year were: in 1921-22, $27,000,000; in 1922-23, $16,000,000; in 1923-24, $14,000,000; in 1924-25, $15,737,109.

"Since the last financial conference in September, 1924, there have been 2,040 new cases. The total number of farmers who have applied to the bureau since its establishment is 9,340, and the number of applicants interviewed in the Regina office is 2,062.

"From September 25, 1924, to date there has been placed into Treasury Suspense Account, the sum of $144,833.04 received under crop assignments, and of this amount there has been paid out to creditors the sum of $140,650.72."

These figures illustrate the nature and the importance of the work done by the bureau, and give an indication of its value to the farmers of the province.

It's Strange, Isn't It?

Two thousand years ago the comparatively small number of people inhabiting the globe were scarcely able to provide enough food for their individual needs. It was a struggle for existence. Today, 35 per cent, provide enough food for their own wants and for the remaining 65 per cent. Farming has become a specialized industry, where mechanical and business ability are as important as practical experience, largely with the last 200 years.

As in the manufacturing industry, organization and advertising have become two important factors in the successful distribution and sale of farm products. The need for the first of these is being met by co-operative marketing organizations, and it would appear that hundreds of farmers are finding in the Farmers' Market Place, a satisfactory method of meeting the second need. Classified advertising produces quick results at a small cost. The Guide carries more than all the other farm journals put together—conclusive proof of the value of our paper.

A considerable quantity of alfalfa seed produced in Alberta last year was sold to United States dealers, indicating the demand for northern grown seed. It is estimated that over a quarter of a million pounds were sold altogether. Alberta seed growers also sold 100,000 pounds of timothy seed.

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LONDON TORONTO WINNIPEG MONTREAL

The Farmers' Market

Office of the United Grain Growers Limited, Winnipeg, Man., May 22, 1925.

WHEAT—Markets have remained firm with fair quantities of grain taken by United Kingdom and continent during the week. Some of this was sold from the local exchange and some from Chicago. Trade generally has been light and sentiment bullish on account of the action of May wheat and general crop conditions in the U.S. winter wheat belt. The reports of rain in Western Canada had a depressing effect yesterday, being used as an excuse for some heavy selling. It is difficult, however, for exporters or others to buy back any quantity of wheat on this market at the present time when offerings are light. Cash demand is alright on 1, 2, 3, naturally, with May wheat at around ten over July, but lower grades are not as good, being at rather a wide discount. Some selling of these low grades East reported from time to time does not affect the spread much, and they still remain rather weak. Coarse grain markets comparatively dull, but a lively trade in high grade oats apparently with export houses bidding sharply for two and three C.W., and not getting very many. Lower grades are easier to obtain and we understand have been sold for export heavily during the past week.

BARLEY—Barley very quiet and little real legitimate business in any one grade. Some small lots of low grade barley moving, but not much.

FLAX—Firm and trade quiet. Little better buying by shippers than for some time. Stocks rather heavy, but fair business being done, offerings apparently being shipped south.

WINNIPEG FUTURES

May 18 to May 23, inclusive.

	18	19	20	21	22	23	Week Ago	Year Ago
Wheat—								
May	189	186⅞	189	185⅞	187	187¾	185¼	107⅞
July	177½	176⅛	179¼	175⅞	176⅛	176⅜	175¼	107⅞
Oct.	138⅜	140⅛	145	142⅞	144½	143⅜	140⅝	102⅞
Oats—								
May	54½	54½	55⅛	55⅞	55⅛	55⅜	54⅞	40
July	56	56⅛	56⅛	56⅜	55⅞	56¼	56½	40⅞
Oct.	52¼	52	52¾	52¼	52⅜	52	52½	39¼
Barley—								
May	87½	87¼	90	88¼	89¼	89	88⅞	64⅞
July	89⅛	89⅜	91½	89½	90½	90⅜	90⅞	63⅞
Oct.	77	76½	77¼	77½	79	77¼	77½	56¾
Flax—								
May	245	245	246	246	247	246½	247	214¾
July	247⅞	247¾	248¼	248⅞	249¼	248¾	249⅞	211
Oct.	233½	235	236¼	235	237	237	233½	185
Rye—								
May	116⅞	116½	119¼	115	116½	117⅞	118⅞	68
July	118	118¾	121	117	118½	119¾	120⅜	69⅛
Oct.	107	107	107¼	107⅛	107	107	106	68

CASH WHEAT

May 18 to May 23, inclusive.

May	18	19	20	21	22	23	Week Ago	Year Ago
1 N.	189	186⅞	189	183¾	187	187¾	185¼	107⅞
2 N.	186	183⅛	186	182¾	184	184⅞	182¼	104⅜
3 N.	181	178⅛	181	177¾	179	179¾	177¼	100⅛
4	161¾	159⅛	162⅛	158⅛	158⅛	160	161½	96⅜
5	..	140⅛	141⅛	137⅛	139⅛	141¼	145¼	90⅛
6	..	120⅞	123⅛	119⅛	121⅛	122⅞	127¼	83⅜
Feed	..	..	..	109⅛	111⅛	112⅛	116¼	76⅞

LIVERPOOL PRICES

Liverpool market closed May 22 as follows: July 1d lower at 12s 5¾d; October 1½d lower at 11s 7d per 100 pounds. Exchange, Canadian funds, quoted unchanged at \$4.84⅛. Worked out into bushels and Canadian currency, Liverpool close was: July \$1.81¼; October \$1.68¼.

MINNEAPOLIS CASH PRICES

Spring wheat—No. 1 dark northern, \$1.63 to \$1.86; No. 1 northern, \$1.62 to \$1.64; No. 2 dark northern, \$1.61 to \$1.83; No. 2 northern, \$1.60 to \$1.62; No. 3 dark northern, \$1.59 to \$1.80; No. 3 northern, \$1.58 to \$1.59. Winter wheat—Montana No. 1 dark hard, \$1.58 to \$1.88; No. 1 hard, \$1.57 to \$1.70. Minnesota and South Dakota No. 1 dark hard, \$1.57 to \$1.62; No. 1 hard, \$1.56 to \$1.60. Durum wheat—No. 1 amber, \$1.53¼ to \$1.62¼; No. 1 durum, \$1.46¼ to \$1.55¼; No. 2 amber, \$1.50¼ to \$1.61¼; No. 2 durum, \$1.45¼ to \$1.53¼; No. 3 amber, \$1.47¼ to \$1.58¼; No. 3 durum, \$1.43¼ to \$1.51¼. Corn—No. 3 yellow, \$1.10 to \$1.12; No. 4 yellow, \$1.04 to \$1.06; No. 3 mixed, \$1.05 to \$1.07; No. 4 mixed, \$1.02 to \$1.04. Oats—No. 2 white, 43c to 44c; No. 3 white 41c to 41½c; No. 4 white, 39c to 40½c. Barley—Choice to fancy, 85c to 86c; medium to good, 78c to 84c; lower grades, 70c to 77c. Rye—No. 2, \$1.12½ to \$1.14½. Flax—No. 1 flaxseed, \$2.77½ to \$2.81½.

WINNIPEG LIVESTOCK

United Livestock Producers Limited, report as follows for the week ending, May 22, 1925:

Receipts this week: Cattle: 2,347; hogs, 6,856; sheep, 19. Last week: Cattle, 2,723; hogs, 5,700; sheep, 22.

Cattle deliveries during the past week continue light, the result being that both this and other markets are showing a fair clearance and the prospects now look for a little better trade next week. About the hardest cattle to move at good values are heavy export steers. This is due to there being no ocean space available at the present time. Therefore, buyers on this class of stock are operating in a very limited manner. Choice export steers are bringing from \$7.50 to \$7.50. Choice butcher steers on the light weight order are selling within a range of \$7.00 to \$7.25. Baby beef steers and heifers up to \$7.50 with an odd one a shade higher. Good butcher cows are bringing from \$5.00 to \$5.75, with the fair to medium kinds at from \$3.25 to \$4.50. Choice butcher heifers from \$6.00 to \$6.50, medium kinds from \$5.00 to \$6.00. Only a very light sprinkling of stockers and feeders are coming on the market, and those of decent quality are bringing from \$5.00 to \$5.50 with the medium to lighter kinds at from \$4.00 to \$4.50, plain qualities from \$3.00 to \$3.50.

The calf market continues unchanged, top veals bringing from \$8.50 to \$9.00, medium qualities from \$5.00 to \$7.00.

Considerable credit is due Mr. R. Brigham, of Deleau, for the splendid finish he had on his load of Hereford steers, which we handled this week. In view of the exceedingly slow and draggy cattle trade which has been apparent all week, the prices Mr. Brigham realized are the best indications of the breeding and finish of these cattle. The following represent the prices:

3 steers, average weight 997 lbs. at \$8.50
4 steers, average weight 880 lbs. at 8.00
1 heifer, weight, 650 lbs. at 8.00
1 steer, weight, 1,240 lbs. 7.50
3 heifers, average weight, 650 lbs. at 7.40

One of Mr. Brigham's steers was sold to the Dominion government as being an ideal handy-weight butcher steer, and this steer together with some others will form an exhibit which the government is showing at all the principal summer fairs in the West.

The hog run continues quite heavy for this time of the year. The market, however, is holding just about steady, thick-smooths ranging from \$11.00 to \$11.25. During the past week sows have been cut \$2.50 per cwt. under thick smooth price, and in order to overcome excessive fills packer buyers are insisting on watering hogs before buying.

In the sheep and lamb section deliveries continue exceedingly light, choice lambs making up to \$13, fair to good sheep from \$6.00 to \$7.00. We cannot too strongly urge our shippers to see that all lambs weigh 50 lbs. or over before shipping, as there is a distinct aversion to light-weight lambs on this market. Please take notice that the packers have agreed that after July 15, buck lambs will be cut \$2.00 per hundred, and after November 2, the cut will be increased to \$3.00 per hundred. We cannot, therefore, too strongly urge the early castration of lambs, and docking should also be done.

Shippers from Saskatchewan and Alberta should bring health certificates covering cattle shipments. This is very important.

The following summary shows the prevailing prices at present:

Choice export steers	\$7.00 to	\$7.25
Prime butcher steers	7.00 to	7.50
Good to choice steers	6.00 to	6.50
Medium to good steers	5.00 to	5.50
Common steers	4.00 to	4.25
Choice feeder steers	5.00 to	5.50
Medium feeders	4.00 to	4.50
Common feeder steers	3.00 to	4.00
Good stocker steers	4.25 to	4.50
Medium stockers	3.25 to	4.00
Common stockers	3.00 to	3.25
Choice butcher heifers	6.00 to	6.75
Fair to good heifers	4.50 to	5.50
Medium heifers	3.50 to	4.50
Stock heifers	3.00 to	3.25
Choice butcher cows	4.25 to	5.50
Fair to good cows	4.00 to	4.50
Cutter cows	1.75 to	2.25
Breedy stock cows	2.00 to	3.00
Canner cows	.75 to	1.25
Choice springers	50.00 to	75.00
Common springers	25.00 to	35.00
Choice light veal calves	8.00 to	9.00
Choice heavy calves	5.50 to	6.50
Common calves	3.50 to	4.50
Heavy bull calves	3.00 to	4.00

EGGS AND POULTRY

WINNIPEG—Eggs: Quotations for this week's deliveries are: extras 28c to 29c; firsts 26c to 28c, seconds 22c to 24c. Receipts are lighter and buying prices from ½c higher. Sales are reported for Eastern account at extras 30½c, firsts 28½c, seconds 25c, f.o.b. Winnipeg. Poultry—No business reported.

REGINA, SASKATOON AND MOOSE JAW—Eggs: Dealers quotations for this week's shipments on these markets show an increase, and they are now offering for extras 27c to 28c, firsts 26c to 27c, seconds 22c to 23c, delivered. Five cars was shipped last week from Southern Saskatchewan to Eastern points. In the North Battleford section price to gatherers are firmer, firsts 23c. These are retailing at 25c. Jobbers in this district are offering extras 26c, firsts 24c, seconds 21c. Poultry—No. business in fresh poultry.

Cash Prices at Fort William and Port Arthur

May 18 to May 23, inclusive

Date	OATS 2 CW	3 CW	Ex Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	BARLEY 3 CW	4 CW	Rej.	Fd	FLAX 1 NW	2 CW	3 CW	RYE 2 CW
May 18	60½	56	53¼	49¼	46⅞	87⅛	82⅛	80⅞	79½	245	241	232⅞	116⅞
19	60½	56	53½	49½	46⅞	87⅛	82⅞	80⅛	79⅞	245	241	232⅞	116⅞
20	61½	57	54½	50⅛	47⅞	90	85	83¼	81⅞	246	242	233⅛	119⅞
21	61⅞	57⅞	54⅛	50⅞	47⅛	88½	83½	81	79⅞	246	242	233⅞	115
22	62⅛	57⅞	54½	50⅛	47⅞	89¼	84½	82	80⅛	247	243	234⅛	116½
23	62⅞	58⅛	55½	50⅞	47⅛	89	84	81⅞	80⅞	246½	242½	235⅞	117⅞
Week Ago	60¾	56¼	53⅛	49⅞	47½	88⅞	83⅞	81⅛	80⅛	247	243	234⅞	117⅛
Year Ago	40	38⅞	38⅞	35⅛	34⅛	64⅛	60⅛	56⅞	54⅛	215½	210⅞	191	68

The Open Forum

"Let truth and falsehood grapple. Who ever knew truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter?"—Milton.

The Guide assumes no responsibility for the opinions expressed by correspondents in this department. It is requested that letters be confined to 500 words in length, that one subject only be discussed in a letter and that letters be written on one side of the paper only, and written very plainly (preferably in ink).

Hudson Bay Railway

The Editor.—It is a long time since I have seen as much good, hard common sense packed into a few words or lines as in the item contributed by David Ross, of Strasburg, Sask. He certainly has the right idea concerning the Hudson Bay Railway, that old bone of contention between the East and the West that has been hanging fire for the last twenty years, and may last for another twenty unless the provincial governments of the three prairie provinces take the bull by the horns and beg the federal government to allow them to complete this railway themselves. An erroneous impression has been brought out by some of the eastern-owned newspapers, printed in Edmonton and Calgary, that Alberta is not behind the Hudson Bay Railway, while the truth is that the Alberta farmers are just as strong for the Hudson Bay route as the farmers of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, as witness the resolutions passed every year at the annual convention. —A. A. Smith, North Edmonton.

Progressives in Parliament

The Editor.—As we are again approaching another election, it may be time well spent to briefly review the activities of those who at present represent us in parliament. Much has been said and written about the split of the so-called "Progressive Party," and particularly those who constitute the "Ginger Group." It may, therefore, in the light of such knowledge we now possess, be well to carefully examine which of these factions has most faithfully followed the program of "A New National Policy" which they as candidates and representatives pledged themselves to endeavor to inaugurate and support. It has indeed been disappointing to learn, that a body of men and women can interpret a plain and simple program so differently. After having for almost four sessions actively participated in discussion and voting on national policies, they have but once or twice unanimously supported any measures of national, economic and political importance. Instead of blazing a new trail in national politics as the "new national policy" called for, they have now degenerated into disguised camp followers of the Liberal Party.

The "Ginger Group" and men and women of that type are the only hope in this maze of confusion. They have proved themselves to be the true standard-bearers of our cause. They have continuously promoted the program as laid down in our platform. This group, although small, has contributed more in the form of constructive policies and has given expression to more clear thinking then any other group in the House. If the rest of the Progressives would have been clear-minded enough to follow their lead then much more beneficial legislation could have been possible, which, in its economic and political nature, would help to improve the conditions of the producers in general.

For these reasons it is now of utmost importance that we, before the next election, get busy to organize "from the ground up," on an industrial basis, in order that we may from now on be able, through educational methods, to develop such unity of ideas as will ensure concerted action, industrially and politically.—Carl Axelson, Bingville, Alta.

The Restless Age

The Editor.—How doleful the farm must be according to a letter appearing in issue of March 25—"no just compensation for our investment—the string of young on their way to the distant city, and the old folks saved by death from further distress, and the disappointing play all over." How sad it all looks, dear—oh—dear. How different my dreams of life—even on these "impossible" farms.

The writer mentions "just compensation" for their "hours of labor." I fear flour would be a terrible price if they were paid according to the hours of labor. I'm sure grain prices this year were real encouraging—couldn't expect much more, and to those hours of labor when we get used to the idea that we have a brain somewhere, and learn to use it occasionally, long enough anyway to place granaries and other buildings conveniently, and plan a few labor-savers (which often can be done in a few hours and are often left for years), we may enjoy shorter hours. That's much the same as the houses on the farms, many of them, as they are planned or "not planned." I wish I might just describe my feelings as regards these planned houses—a woman works triple doing same work as her sister in a well planned home, and then talk of hours! There's no one to blame but oneself. Farmers are their own foremen. Who can make their hours except themselves? and if anyone else attempted to, we would hear things.

When he says "they all ask money of the farm"—he hits it. They all ask money of the—grain. Maybe when the young folks get little sidelines of their own, which is so easily possible on the farm, and use up some of that space now occupied by junk, i.e., their binders, mowers, etc., left rusting in rain and snow, they will get their money from that; providing their father doesn't grouch at them until he destroys their enthusiasm, and ruins their plans. Many men make great money on very little space, until they are able to start up beside dad on a small scale, with a little help from him in the way of horses, cattle, etc., and with what they have saved from their "sideline" they get probably, a better start than dad did, and if properly trained in the art of appreciation, happiness and content will result.

I should think "when the young and virile generation, seeing the debacle under which their forebears groan and suffer," instead of "eschewing" the farm, and beating it to the city, they would put, like Hercules, their shoulder to the wheel, and say "I'll lift it out or die." Surely that spirit is left in some. What use is the city with its bright lights where man is measured by his dollars when you haven't one?

In my opinion, it's none of these cause the city "rush." It's plain restlessness, whether they have money or not. They already have too much of everything. Appreciation is dead. As children they have too much—even up-to-date cars. Years ago children created their play, toys and games, and loved both—when they grew up they appreciated things that now-a-days they won't notice. You see it in care of horses and cars. Mud to the ears of the first, and doors of latter. No pride of ownership. Seldom do we meet the good driver who thoroughly enjoys his job. No, they more often tear along like the "wicked one on skates," in a great rush to get nowhere. Even girls remark "a car's no good to me under 40 per."

We, ourselves, a restless, nervous people, impart that spirit to the young. Everyone, regardless of position trying to pace with the world, and, like some children at school, each wanting to be "it" in a game. Peddling a bike, instead of being a "joy forever" is now work. They get a car instead, which only the wealthy would consider a short time back.

Life—a successful life, is as a ladder, rung by rung, but now the "fellow" on the second rung tries the same stunts as the one on the top.

What a good many want is real poverty until they learn "appreciation." Impart that spirit to the young and the eternal restless grouching will cease.—Edna Towns, Holmfield.

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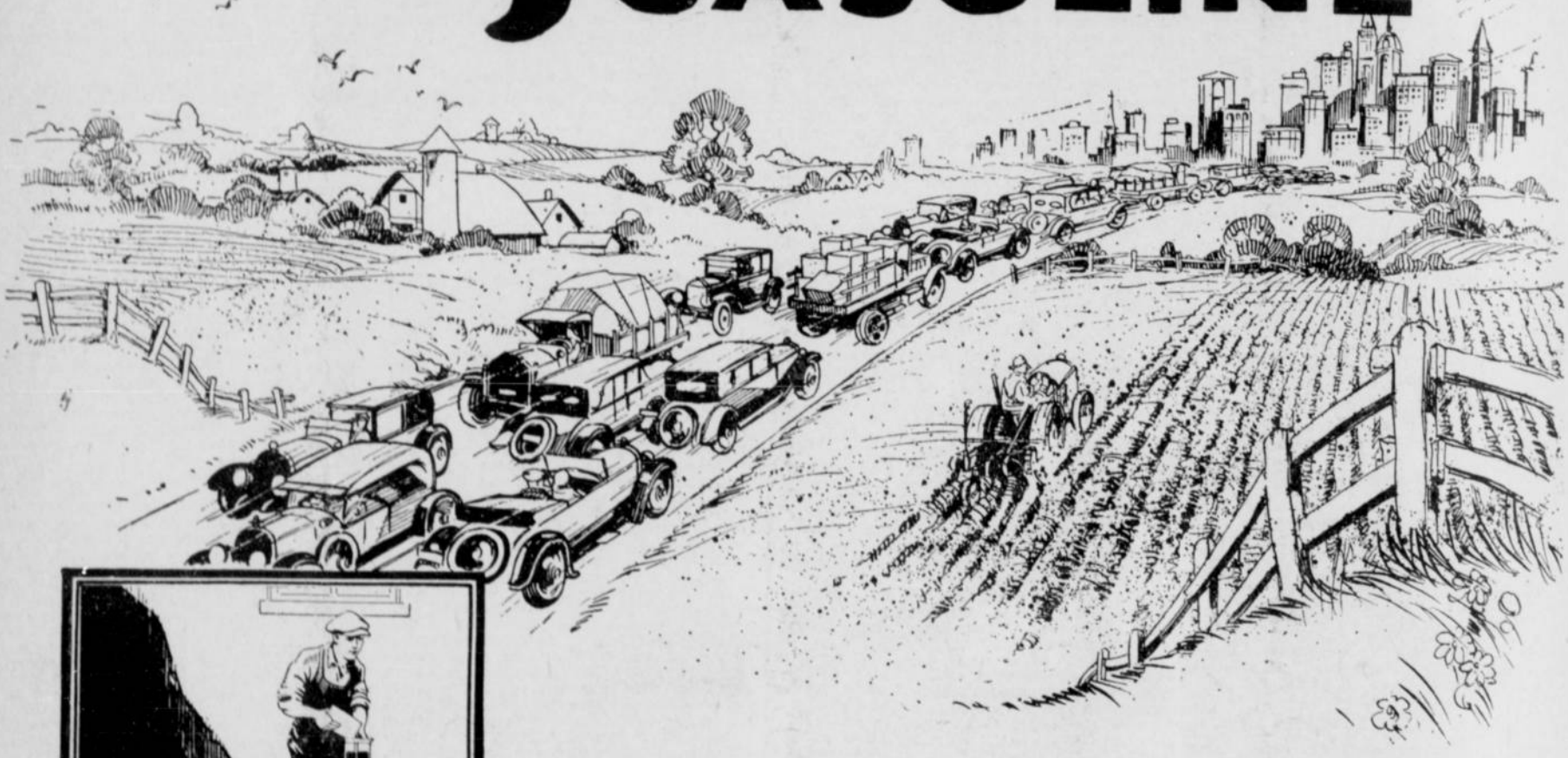

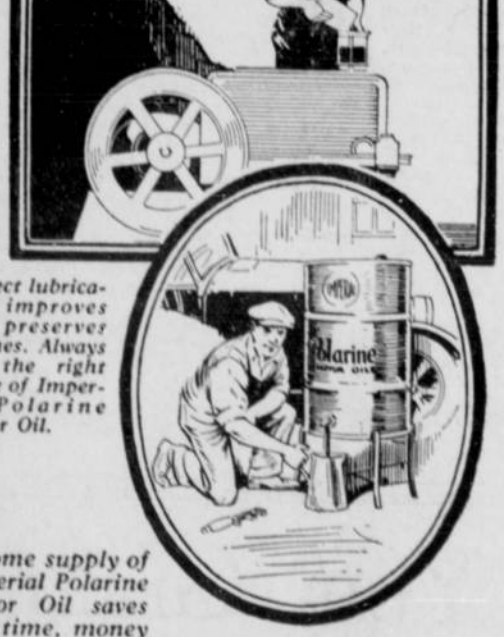

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